FBIS DAILY REPORT

MIDDLE EAST & SOUTH ASIA REVIEW

16 AUGUST 1984

Iran

Following the rejection by the Majlis of five Cabinet ministers, Prime Minister Mir-Hoseyn Musavi announced four of their replacements, including Colonel Mohammad Reza Rahimi as defense minister, Tehran radio reported. A new culture and higher education minister has yet to be named.

In a related development, the Majlis approved the appointments of three other newly introduced ministers, IRNA reported. The three ministers are those of information, justice, and housing and urban development.

Red Sea

British and French minesweepers arrived in Suez prior to beginning their hunt for mines on 17 August, MENA reported. The British, French, and U.S. minehunters will work in cooperation with Egyptian Naval Forces and the operation will be under the full control of the Egyptian military command, the agency said. Commenting on the search for mines in the Red Sea, IRNA stated that Iran demands the identification of the elements responsible for laying the mines, but added that it has grounds to question the competence and impartiality of those carrying out the search and would prefer the task to be carried out by Muslim and nonaligned states.

Israel

The consumer price index rose 12.4 percent in July, bringing the annual inflation rate to about 400 percent, according to a Central Bureau of Statistics report cited by Jerusalem radio. A trade union leader noted that this rise is the highest July price increase since the establishment of the state, and he warned that any intention by the government to change the labor or cost-of-living agreements will meet with strong opposition from the main trade union organization. Industrialists stated that the July index emphasized the need for the two major parties to reach an agreement on economic matters.

Meanwhile, the Likud and Alignment joint political committee met, and the next session will be on 19 August, Jerusalem radio reported. Disagreements have arisen on two particular issues, the settlements and the peace initiative with Jordan, the radio added.

Maghreb

Morocco and Libya have invited other Maghreb countries to join in the treaty of union signed recently by Colonel Mu'ammar Al-Qadhdhafi and King Hassan II, a Moroccan official disclosed in remarks reported by MAP.

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GULF AFFAIRS

'No Damage' to Tanker Attacked Near Bahrain

BK161024 Karachi Domestic Service in English 1005 GMT 16 Aug 84

[Text] A Pakistani oil tanker, *Johar*, on its way to Saudi Arabia to lift crude oil, was attacked yesterday by an unidentified jet aircraft near (Shah Alam shoal), approximately 20 km from Bahrain. The jet aircraft fired two missiles which fell close to the stern of the ship. The crew and the vessel, however, sustained no damage. According to the last report received in Karachi, the vessel was proceeding to R'as at-Tannurah.

KUWAIT

Diplomatic Relations With Liberia Severed

LD160834 Kuwait KUNA in Arabic 0745 GMT 16 Aug 84

[Text] Kuwait, 16 Aug (KUNA) — Kuwait announced today that it has severed diplomatic and economic relations with Liberia following that African country's resumption of its relations with Israel.

Official Receives Eritrean Faction Leaders

LD151332 Kuwait KUNA in Arabic 1000 GMT 15 Aug 84

[Text] Shaykh Sabah al-Ahmad al-Jabir, deputy prime minister, foreign and information minister, met at his office at the Information Ministry this morning with the leaders of the three unified Eritrean factions — Osman Saleh Sabeh, Abdallah Idris Mohamed, and Abd al-Qadir Ghaylani. The meeting was attended by the representatives of the three factions in Kuwait and the acting head of administration of the office of the foreign minister, Sulayman al-Mirjan.

KUNA has learned that the leaders of the three unified Eritrean factions informed Shaykh Sabah al-Ahmad of the content of the unity agreement recently reached by the factions in an attempt to unify the struggle of the Eritrean people. The delegation also expressed the Eritrean people's appreciation and gratitude for the support given by Kuwait to the Eritrean people's struggle.

Problems of Iranian Residents Discussed

LD151654 Tehran IRNA in English 1600 GMT 15 Aug 84

[Text] Kuwait, Aug. 15, IRNA — Charge d'Affaires of the Islamic Republic Embassy here, Mohammad Reza Baqeri, Tuesday met with Kuwaiti minister of the interior, Nawwaf al-Ahmad al-Jabir as-Sabah and discussed mutual relations between the two countries as well as the problems and issues of Iranians residing in that country. Following the meeting, Baqeri told IRNA that proposals were submitted to Kuwait for eliminating the problems of Iranians there. The Kuwaiti minister also promised to investigate the issue in hopes of eliminating the existing problems in this regard, said Baqeri. The Iranian charge d'affaires also quoted the Kuwaiti minister as saying that only four Iranians were detained in Kuwaiti prisons and investigation into their cases would be accelerated.

Iran's 'Preliminary Approval' for Conference Viewed

GF151840 Kuwait AS-SIYASAH in Arabic 14 Aug 84 p 1

[Political editor's report]

[Text] Despite the abnormal atmosphere of secrecy surrounding the bilateral and multi-sided contacts on the Iraq-Iran war and the possibility of Iran taking advantage of the current situation, which is relatively suitable, to reach a phase of preliminary negotiation, European diplomatic sources closely following the issue have told *AS-SIYASAH* of Iran's preliminary approval of the convocation of an expanded conference in Damascus or Tripoli, Libya instead of the former Iranian proposition for holding a similar conference in Tehran.

The diplomatic sources said that during his recent tour of a number of Gulf countries, the Iranian Foreign Ministry under secretary presented a plan designed at bilateral Iranian contacts with the region's countries which would lead to a collective conference of the Gulf region to be held in Tehran. The response which Iran received at that time, however, was based on the possibility of Iranian negotiation with the Gulf countries as one block rather than separate countries. But regardless of the revelation of the information to the press and the unveiling of the talks in this regard, the Iranian media preferred to completely deny the issue and to conceal it.

It appears as if the aforementioned initiative has come through Syria. The European diplomatic sources point out that in its direct contacts with Iran and the Arab Gulf countries, the Syrian leadership has revived the issue of holding a general conference in Damascus or Tripoli, Libya. A delegation or two delegations of GCC countries would participate in it, in addition to Iran and some international mediators who are involved in this issue, particularly Turkey and other Islamic countries.

Despite the absence of official confirmations and the concealment of other details— under the assumption that most of the sides, particularly Iran, are determined to keep the issue concealed— the diplomatic sources said that the negotiation process has made progress with the hope that it will be the prelude of a direct Iranian-Iraqi meeting with the participation of the other concerned sides.

OMAN

Official Reports Increase in Oil Production

GF151858 Manama WAKH in Arabic 1825 GMT 15 Aug 84

[Excerpt] Nicosia, 15 Aug (WAKH) — The Sultanate of Oman recently has raised its oil production to 400,000 barrels with an increase of 60,000 barrels to make up for part of the financial deficiency which has resulted from the slump in oil prices in the international markets. This was reported by Omani Petroleum and Minerals Minister Sa'id Ahmad ash-Shanfari in a statement to the magazine *AT-TA'AWUN AL-KHALIJI* in today's issue.

He said that this rise in production has come at a time when the international oil markets are witnessing an immense glut. He added that despite this international oil glut, the Sultanate has not confronted any problems with regard to marketing its products. There are numerous requests for Omani oil, particularly from Japanese companies which buy about 60 percent of its production.

SAUDI ARABIA

Press Statement on Fahd-Siad Barre Talks

LD151352 Riyadh Domestic Service in Arabic 1130 GMT 15 Aug 84

[Text] We have just received the following press statement:

His Majesty King Fahd ibn 'Abd al-'Aziz of the Kingdom of Saudi Arabia and His Excellency President Mohamed Siad Barre, president of the Somali Democratic Republic, held several rounds of talks during his excellency's visit to the Kingdom during 11 to 14 August 1984 in a fraternal atmosphere in which a spirit of amity and mutual confidence prevailed.

The two sides reviewed the strong bilateral relations between the two countries and expressed their total satisfaction with the coordination and cooperation existing between them and aimed at the consolidation of ties between the two countries in all spheres on the basis of their mutual interests and the unity of aim and destiny. They also reviewed the situation in the region and reaffirmed their resolve to continue cooperation in all fields to safeguard the security and stability of all countries of the region and to preserve them free from foreign influence, as well as to keep the region outside the arena of international struggles.

The two sides also discussed the explosion incidents that took place in the Red Sea and expressed their strong denunciation of them. They reaffirmed the necessity of working to make the Red Sea a peaceful region and to guard it from international conflicts or ambitions. They also stressed the importance of keeping this vital international waterway free from foreign interference and of guaranteeing the safety and security of navigation in this waterway.

The two sides also reviewed international problems and stressed the identity of their views in this regard. His excellency the Somali president expressed his deep gratitude to the Kingdom of Saudi Arabia — government and people — for the warm welcome and hospitality he and his delegation received and for the continued support the Kingdom provides for Somalia.

His excellency extended an invitation to his brother His Majesty King Fahd ibn 'Abd al-'Aziz. His majesty accepted the invitation with thanks; its date will be determined later.

Pakistani Foreign Minister Arrives for Conference

LD151318 Riyadh SPA in English 1200 GMT 15 Aug 84

[Text] Jidda, Aug 15, SPA — Pakistani Foreign Minister Sahabzada Yaqub Ali Khan arrived here Tuesday night. He was received at the airport by Salim Sunbul, chief of the protocol at the Foreign Ministry and Najmul Saqib Khan, the Pakistani ambassador to the Kingdom.

On arrival, Yaqub Ali Khan said he came to the Kingdom to attend a regional conference of the Pakistani ambassadors based in the Gulf Cooperation Council countries, which is due to begin here today. Pakistani ambassadors in Iran and Iraq will also attend the conference, Yaqub Ali Khan said.

The conference will discuss bilateral relations between Pakistan and the six members of the GCC. The Pakistani minister hailed Saudi-Pakistani relations and described them as "excellent".

Afghan Mujahidin Operations Analyzed

LD151643 Riyadh Domestic Service in Arabic 1130 GMT 15 Aug 84

[Abdullah Sulayman al-Khurayyis political analysis]

[Text] It appears that the Muslim Afghani mujahidin are continuing much of their activity and ability following the extensive attack which was launched by the Soviet forces in recent months on the Panjsher Valley, which represents one of the most important bastions of the mujahidin in Afghanistan. Despite continuous Soviet reinforcements which Moscow sends to the valley to strengthen its forces there, the rate of human losses, to say nothing about vast losses in equipment, has gradually risen to the previous level, if not more, according to estimates by some observers prior to the recent attack, the seventh since the Soviet invasion of Afghanistan in December 1979.

Recent news from there spoke about a noticeable activity within the ranks of the Islamic resistance and many losses within the ranks of the Soviet forces and the pro-Soviet Afghan forces. However this was accompanied, some times, by barbaric reprisal operations by the communists, as a result of which many Islamic villages in Muslim Afghanistan have suffered. But instead of making the mujahidin abandon their struggle — the expectations of the Soviet — these actions have increased the enthusiasm of the Muslim Afghan mujahidin, who believe in God and struggle out of their firm conviction that they are the vanguard of a Muslim people who are awaiting the moment of deliverance from Soviet subjugation.

During the past 2 weeks reports said that the Islamic resistance has inflicted more than 350 dead on the communist resistance in several operations which took place north and southeast of the capital. Western diplomatic sources in Islamabad said the Soviets have begun to concentrate and move their military operations to an area situated south of Kabul. According to these sources a garrison which belongs to the Babrak Karmal government, supported by Moscow, is now under a strict siege at the hands of men of the Islamic resistance near the border with Pakistan, and that this garrison has been unable to make moves outside the area because of the siege and fear of attacks by the mujahidin. According to these sources, the garrison is suffering from shortage of food, energy and other supplies, a matter which may make this garrison unable to resist if the mujahidin attempt to overrun it. Recent reports said the mujahidin last week and for

4 consecutive nights launched successful attacks on the outskirts of Kabul airport.

At any rate the fluctuations in fighting between the two sides will continue at a rate governed by circumstances and surprises. As long as the Soviet forces will not leave and withdraw, and as long as the Muslim Afghani people will not accept this political, military and ideological occupation, the land of Afghanistan will not know any calm as the sound of artillery and fighting will continue. Observers have stressed that the solution in Afghanistan cannot be military, because it will never be decisive. This means that the solution of the Afghani problem can only be peaceful; this will inevitably gives the Muslim people of Afghanistan their right, same as other people, to self-determination and the freedom to choose the type of regime they want, free from all pressures and coercion.

PDRY

Gold Exploration Agreement With USSR Signed

GF160548 Aden ANA in Arabic 1715 GMT 15 Aug 84

[Correspondent's dispatch from Moscow]

[Text] Moscow, 15 Aug (ANA) — An agreement for a geological survey of the gold fields in Hadramawt Governorate has been signed today between our country and the Soviet Union. The agreement was signed by Brother 'Abd al-Qadir Bajammal, candidate member of the YSP Central Committee and minister of industry, and Comrade Khotsialov, first deputy chairman of the USSR State Committee for Foreign Economic Relations. Present during the agreement was Brother Salih Abu Bakr ibn Hasanayn, our ambassador to the Soviet Union.

YAR

President Salih Receives Iraq's Ramadan

JN151334 Baghdad INA in Arabic 1230 GMT 15 Aug 84

[Text] San'a', 15 Aug (INA) — YAR President Colonel 'Ali 'Abdallah Salih received here at noon today Taha Yasin Ramadan, Iraqi RCC member and first deputy prime minister. Ramadan conveyed President Saddam Husayn's greetings to President Salih and Iraq's appreciation for and pride in the noble and fraternal stand of the Yemeni people and command toward Iraq in the defensive war it has been waging for the past 4 years. The Iraqi official briefed President 'Ali 'Abdallah Salih on the military, political, and economic developments in the Iraqi-Iranian war, stressing that the military situation on the front is excellent and that the Iraqi Armed Forces are ready to repulse any new Iranian aggression, and reiterating Iraq's readiness to cooperate with any new initiative for ending the war.

President 'Ali 'Abdallah Salih asked Ramadan to convey his greetings to President Saddam Husayn, and reiterated the stand of the YAR command and people in support of Iraq and their pride in the heroic victories scored by the Iraqis. The meeting was attended by YAR Prime Minister 'Abd al-'Aziz 'Abd al-Ghani; and Hasan 'Ali, Iraqi RCC member and trade minister.

Joint Cooperation Minutes Signed

JN151938 Baghdad INA in Arabic 1800 GMT 15 Aug 84

[Text] San'a', 15 Aug (INA) — Housing and Reconstruction Minister Muhammad Fadil Husayn and YAR Development Minister Muhammad al-Junayd signed here today the minutes of the extraordinary session of the Iraqi-Yemeni Cooperation Committee. The minutes provide for expanding cooperation in the fields of agriculture, transportation, and communications, and for increasing the volume of trade exchange. The Iraqi and Yemeni ministers said at the signing ceremony that the minutes constitute a major contribution toward developing and expanding bilateral cooperation. Muhammad Fadil Husayn is accompanying Taha Yasin Ramadan, RCC member and first deputy prime minister, on his current visit to San'a'.

Iraq's Ramadan, Delegation Depart

GF151814 San'a' Domestic Service in Arabic 1700 GMT 15 Aug 84

[Excerpt] Taha Yasin Ramadan, Iraqi RCC member and first deputy prime minister, and his accompanying delegation left San'a' today after a 2-day visit to our country. During the visit, the official met with Brother Colonel 'Ali Abdallah Salih, secretary general of the General People's Congress.

MENA Carries Mubarak Cable News Network Interview

NC151548 Cairo MENA in Arabic 1300 GMT 15 Aug 84

[Text] Washington, 15 Aug (MENA) — President Husni Mubarak has urged the Palestinians who will meet at the PNC session to be held in Algiers during September to settle their differences and reach decisions on coordinating their actions with King Husayn of Jordan. This came in an interview which the President granted to the U.S. Cable News Network announcer [passage indistinct]. President Mubarak said that so far and since Yasir 'Arafat left Tripoli in Lebanon, went to the PDRY, and made tours here and there, we have been waiting for the PLO to iron out its differences, speak with one voice, and coordinate with King Husayn on forming a delegation for the forthcoming negotiations on the Palestinian issue.

Replying to a question on the need for the Arab countries to unite, and for the Israelis to unite as well so that it will be possible for both sides to achieve peace, President Mubarak said that he believed the Palestinians should first unite, then discuss their problems and coordinate with King Husayn. He added: The PLO must reach a decision on this — I mean a link with King Husayn; I believe it will be difficult to proceed toward peace before such a decision is reached.

Replying to a question on the role the United States could play in the efforts for achieving peace in the Middle East, President Mubarak said: I do not ask the United States to do anything until after the U.S. presidential elections are over. I know the situation but at the same time I urge the Palestinians to unite and solve their problem with King Husayn; and when the U.S. presidential elections are over, I believe the United States must move. We have the Camp David agreements, and if they do not want the Camp David agreements we have the Reagan plan; and we are prepared to negotiate on any plan agreed to by all the sides.

The correspondent pointed to President Mubarak's meeting with Walter Mondale, then U.S. vice president, in July 1978 and his talks with him on the prospects of the peace talks. She then asked the president his impression of Mondale during that visit. President Mubarak said: I cannot remember this completely. I held very brief talks with Mondale. All the talks were held between Mondale and the late President Anwar as-Sadat.

President Mubarak continued: I believe Mondale was then fully sympathetic with solving the problem and giving the Palestinians their rights. I do not know what has happened now. Mondale now supports all the Israeli proposals. He now says the U.S. Embassy must be moved to Jerusalem, which is against the wish of all the Arabs. I urge the United States not to make this mistake.

Discussing the promises made during the presidential election campaign President Mubarak said: During elections we usually hear many proposals which I call election proposals. We will wait until after the elections, then we will be able to live in reality, speak sincerely, and see what can be done to solve the problem.

Sandy Freeman then turned from Mondale to President Reagan. She asked President Mubarak about his impression of U.S. President Reagan. He said: Reagan is an excellent man and I like him. Perhaps he is not strict, but first of all he is President of the United States. He is an objective person. I have met him several times so far and I have found him very flexible and understanding. I have found that his decisions are made after thorough study by his administration.

Answering a question on whether he would like to see the Reagan administration remain in power for another 4 years, he told the correspondent: Tell me, are you a Reagan or a Mondale supporter, so I can talk with you?

He went on: We know Reagan as president, and we have worked with his administration. We have no objection at all. But if the American people elect Mondale, we will not be able to change this, and we will have to deal with Mondale. However, at the present time I tell you that we have a good relationship with President Reagan and his administration. We have worked together for almost 3 years. I have found he is very responsive, and there is no problem in dealing with his administration at all. Even if sometimes we face very difficult problems, we can overcome them very easily.

Replying to a question on whether it is difficult for Egypt to deal with the U.S. Administration, which changes every 4 years, President Mubarak said: When we started dealing with the United States we found it difficult in the beginning. However, once we understood the U.S. style of administering the country and of dealing with foreign policy affairs, we knew how to deal with it. When we wanted to purchase military equipment, for example, I remember I went to meet with President Carter requesting to purchase some F-16 planes. This was in January 1980 when I was vice president. Carter told me that this matter required congressional approval and that it will be difficult. This required me to stay much longer to meet with Congress, and to meet with the Foreign Relations Committee to explain our requirements, as well as the reason for our aid request. It was also necessary for me to get the approval of the administration, the secretary of state, and the secretary of defense. The matter required a very long time, merely to explain and convince. Finally we learned the way — our way — of dealing with the United States.

When asked if he was surprised to see a woman nominated as a candidate for U.S. vice president, President Mubarak said: This does not surprise me because it is something normal in the United States. But in our area, in the Arab countries, it would be something very strange, unlikely to happen, and unacceptable.

On whether the nomination of a woman, namely Geraldine Ferraro, to the post of vice president will be helpful or detrimental to the Democrats, the president said: I hear what the Americans themselves say. Some say this will help the Democrats while some others say it may be harmful. Actually, I cannot conclude whether this will be useful or detrimental. We have heard balanced ideas, so let us wait and see what happens on 4 November.

Further on this question, the American network's chief editor asked whether Egypt and the Arab countries can deal with a woman occupying the vice presidential post, or perhaps the

presidential post of the United States, and whether it would be difficult for a woman to deal in foreign policy affairs with the Arab countries, President Mubarak said that he believed it will not be difficult at all. We have to deal with whomever is elected by the people of the United States no matter who it is. As an example of this, President Mubarak cited Margaret Thatcher, the British Prime Minister, and said: We deal with Mrs Thatcher on questions of foreign policy. We have to deal with her. Mrs Thatcher has toured the Middle East and has visited Saudi Arabia, the Gulf states, and a number of other countries. The British Queen has also visited Oman and some other countries, and there was no problem.

President Mubarak added: However, in our country and in the Arab countries, I believe that it is not acceptable that a woman be head of state. Such a thing will not be acceptable to the people, and it will be very difficult to convince them. If I were to speak here about a woman assuming the post of head of state, you would hear people say, "Do we not have men here?" Such a reaction will be found in the entire area and not only in Egypt.

The President was asked whether the time will come when equality between men and women will be achieved. He said: I am not against women, but this is the attitude of the people in this area, and not only in Egypt, in connection with a woman assuming the post of head of state. Perhaps this might happen in the future, who knows?

The announcer spoke about the atmosphere in which the interview took place, in Qasr at-Tin Palace in Alexandria, where King Faruq abdicated the throne and left Egypt. Sandy Freeman asked President Mubarak whether the transition from the past to the future was easy, particularly since he demonstrates great interest in looking to the future. President Mubarak said: I have learned from past experience. I would like to establish a sound democracy for the future. This does not mean that I want to bring back the old democracy to follow it. It does not fit the current conditions. We are building life on strong foundations while learning from past eras and experience. This is what I mean.

In response to a question on the reason for following a quiet style, Mubarak reminded Freeman that we are in a democratic society where every individual can say what he wants. Regarding the perception that he follows a quiet style, President Mubarak said: I work quietly and leave the work itself to tell the people what takes place instead of telling them myself. I do not like to make many speeches to the people. I make a speech when there is a need or when there is an occasion, but not every week or every 10 days. This is my nature. This is the method I have followed throughout my term in office. This is the method I have followed all my life, and I cannot change. I like to work quietly and carefully. The results of what we have done will appear. I do not like to say I will do this or that. I wait until the work is over and then it will speak for itself. This is my method, and every human being has his own way of speaking.

Asked if he met with difficulties in following in President Anwar as-Sadat's steps or [words indistinct], President Mubarak said: I can tell you that Anwar as-Sadat was an Egyptian hero. No one can (?deny) that President as-Sadat did a great deal for peace. He did a great deal and took courageous steps for peace. Not every leader can do such a thing. This, however, was the nature of the era in which As-Sadat lived. Likewise, during Jamal 'Abd an-Nasir's era, the latter performed his own courageous deeds, because that era required that type of action.

The situation is different during my period. We have the constitution and we must respect the law. We have economic problems and we have extremely big problems in the infrastructure. We have to do a great deal internally. All these problems must be dealt with according to my method. Therefore, I can tell you that my era is different to that of As-Sadat. Consequently, I cannot follow all the steps followed by As-Sadat because we are in a different era that has new problems. There was the problem of the October war in As-Sadat's era and we had to get rid of the Israelis who were occupying our land; we had to do this and that. That period had its own characteristics. Now we have retrieved our land from the Israelis and we have to concentrate our efforts and give attention as a first priority to our domestic interests while at the same time not neglecting international problems; but our domestic interests must have first priority.

President Mubarak added: The people want to live. The people want their standard of living to be raised. The people want to obtain houses and to see an infrastructure of a good standard that has telephones, water, sewage, electricity, transport, modern communications. The investments the people want require international and internal contacts as well as a good infrastructure. All this needs to be done. We have to solve all the political problems of this period which has its own distinguishing characteristics.

Freeman asked President Mubarak again whether he believed in managing the affairs of the presidency in his own way. The president said: I have my own way of dealing with my problems here. I am different from the others. As-Sadat was a different person and so was 'Abd an-Nasir. King Faruq was something else. Khedive 'Abbas, Khedive Isma'il, and Khedive Muhammad were all leaders of this country but it cannot be said that King Faruq was administering the country exactly as Khedive 'Abbas, or Khedive Isma'il, or Khedive Muhammad had done. Moreover, you cannot say that President Mubarak administers the affairs of the country as As-Sadat, 'Abd an-Nasir or others had done. The next president will not manage the affairs of the country exactly as I am doing. We are all different personalities but the goal is one.

Replying to a question on whether he will nominate himself to the presidency again, President Mubarak said: Who knows, I cannot tell you this now.

Replying to a question on the return of the Egyptian ambassador to Israel the President said: I have met with Eliyahu Ben-Elisar, and I have also met with a number of responsible Israeli officials and others. They all know the three points which we have put forward. These are summed up in the need for an Israeli withdrawal from Lebanon, setting the Palestinian issue in motion, and lastly progress toward achieving a solution for the question of Tabah.

On the Israeli claims that a first step toward finding solutions to some of these problems is linked to the return of the Egyptian ambassador, Freeman asked President Mubarak whether he agreed with this. The president said: How? We withdrew our ambassador because they invaded Lebanon and because of the massacre which took place near Beirut. I told them that I am ready to return the Egyptian ambassador if they withdraw from Lebanon but they have not done so, so far. I still emphasize what I have said in connection with the return of the Egyptian ambassador.

Mubarak answered another question, which is typically posed by U.S. journalists to Egyptian officials, about the exchange of ambassadors between Cairo and Moscow and its effect on U.S.-Egyptian relations. Mubarak said: I have already told the United States about the exchange of ambassadors. I have talked frankly about this at the National Press Club in Washington. I was asked there about the Soviet Union and the reason why we have some Soviet experts. I made it clear that even during the October 1973 war there were contacts with the Soviet Union to send us some equipment. This equipment actually arrived and there is a guarantee on it. Consequently, we accepted those experts for the service related to the guarantee. These experts are very few. The other thing I told them is that the Soviet Union is the other superpower and we cannot ignore it. There is a Soviet Embassy in Cairo and an Egyptian Embassy in Moscow. The only thing that was lacking was the presence of ambassadors. Whenever we are sure that there will be no intervention in our internal affairs we will be ready to exchange ambassadors.

The President added: The United States knows this well. It knew about the exchange of ambassadors. I can frankly say that we are looking forward to establishing relations with every country in the world. We have special relations with the United States and our relations with any other country will not interfere with these special relations or take place at their expense.

Mubarak was asked about the reasons why Egypt and its mass media are not responding to the attacks made by Al-Qadhdhafi. He said: It is not my policy to attack any of our friends in the Arab world, under any circumstances. Let them say what they want to say in their media, but we shall not respond. We are the largest country in the area, a country with 6,000 years of civilization, and we will behave accordingly.

On whether the Arab countries are looking up to Egypt as an example, Mubarak said: We do not have any trouble with any Arab country except for Syria and its media. Syria sometimes assails us because of the Camp David accords, but we are never going to respond to this. As for [those] on our western borders, they do attack us from time to time on account of the Camp David accords.

Mubarak said: They can always say whatever they like, but Egypt will remain Egypt and our decision will remain in our hands. Nobody can influence our decisionmaking. We are an independent country. We do not have to respond to any country. We have to make our own decisions.

Commenting on reports being reiterated that Syria has become a major power in the area and superior to Egypt, President Mubarak said: I can tell you frankly that there is no state in the area that can replace Egypt under any circumstances. Even those who believe that they can occupy Egypt's place know deep inside them that Egypt is Egypt, leader of this area. They know this very well. Egypt is the most powerful state in the area. Neither Syria nor any other Arab country can replace Egypt at all whether they like it or not.

Answering a question on whether Syria or perhaps Libya pose any danger of establishing their superiority in the Arab world, President Mubarak said: Do you in the United States believe that Libya can replace Egypt or do you believe that Syria or any Arab state can occupy Egypt's position and be superior to Egypt? If you believe so I must tell you frankly that you are committing a grave mistake.

Asked whether this is possible, President Mubarak said: It is impossible.

AFP: British, French Minesweepers Arrive in Suez Gulf

NC151107 Paris AFP in English 1102 GMT 15 Aug 84

[Text] Cairo, Aug 15 (AFP) — Four British and two French minesweepers sent to search for mines in the Red Sea have crossed through the Suez Canal and have arrived in the Gulf of Suez, sources said here today. The British minesweepers *Gavinton*, *Kirkliston*, *Brinton* and *Bossington* will search in the northern zone of the Gulf. The zone to be covered by the French *Dompaire* and *Cantho* has not yet been defined.

The six vessels will be followed by four U.S. mine-detecting helicopters en route from Spain and two additional French minesweepers, the *Cassiopee* and the *Eridan*, which left Monday from the Brittany Port of Brest.

These vessels constitute the international armada, assembled at the request of Egypt and Saudi Arabia, to search for mines in the Gulf of Suez and the Red Sea, where at least sixteen ships have been damaged by mysterious explosions since July 9.

Minesweeping Operations to Begin

NC151847 Cairo MENA in Arabic 1655 GMT 15 Aug 84

[Text]Suez, 15 Aug (MENA) — Survey operations searching for mines in the Gulf of Suez and in Egyptian territorial waters in the Red Sea will begin this coming Friday with British, French, and U.S. minehunters in cooperation with the Egyptian Naval Forces under the full control of the Egyptian Military Command. The British force, made up of three minehunters and a supply ship, arrived today at the naval base in Al-Adabiyah harbor in Suez. The British minehunter *Kirkliston* was behind the others because of some faults and arrived at the naval base in Suez this afternoon.

Two French minesweepers also arrived at the Suez naval base at 1500 today. They will be joined by a third French minesweeper at dawn Thursday. Two U.S. ships carrying four minehunter helicopters are already here.

Immediately after the arrival of the British force at the Suez naval base a meeting was held among the British commanders, the Egyptian commanders and senior officials of the Suez Canal Authority to outline the plan of operation and define the sector in the Gulf of Suez which the British force will clear. Meanwhile, the crew of the four British ships, about 220 officers and sailors, prepared the necessary equipment to begin the clearing operation. A team of divers is present aboard each naval unit.

It was learned that the British force will operate at the entrance of the Suez Canal from the Gulf of Suez, according to the British naval attache in Cairo. Egyptian commanders are holding similar meetings with the commanders of the French and U.S. forces to outline the sectors each force will survey in the Gulf of Suez.

Sources of the British command this afternoon said they did not know how long the operation would take but expressed hope that the mission would be completed as soon as possible. Answering reporters' questions, these sources said that the British minehunters have not traced any mines during their journey from Port Said to Suez through the canal. The sources noted that the British area of operations will be in the Gulf of Suez.

Meanwhile, sources of the Suez Canal Authority said that the survey operations in the Gulf of Suez will not affect daily traffic and that there will be no interference between the minehunters during their operation and the merchant vessels bound to the canal from the Gulf of Suez. Officials of the Suez Canal Authority have confirmed that Egyptian minehunters have been spread out in the Gulf of Suez since the recent incidents there and that daily traffic in the canal is proceeding normally. They added that so far about 10 ships of various nationalities under suspicion have been searched in the Gulf of Suez.

'Abd al-Majid on Mining

NC151021 Cairo MENA in Arabic 0920 GMT 15 Aug 84

[Text] Paris, 15 Aug (MENA) — Egyptian Foreign Minister Dr 'Ismat 'Abd al-Majid has described the mines that exploded in different areas in the Gulf of Suez as having been of a primitive type, which indicates that the party which carried out the mining operation is not advanced in this art. He emphasized that Egypt is capable of imposing control in the Suez Canal and the Gulf of Suez, that Egypt has a large naval base in (?Banas), and that the Egyptian fleet is assuming full responsibility in this area.

On the mines in the southern part of the Red Sea, Dr 'Ismat 'Abd al-Majid said: We do not rule out the existence of a plan to obstruct navigation in this area. He pointed to the importance of the Red Sea at present and in the future in that it now constitutes the gravitational point instead of the Gulf and the Strait of Hormuz. He said that the Red Sea is the second outlet for oil and that its importance is mounting in view of the projects to extend new pipelines.

The Egyptian foreign minister emphasized that these explosions will not lead to halting navigation in the Red Sea, because what happened were obstruction and harrassment operations that caused no grave damage. He affirmed that no accusations will be levelled against anybody except on the basis of certainty. He pointed to the possibility of there being terrorist organizations that have planned for the operation just as they plan for hijacking planes, for example.

Dr 'Ismat 'Abd al-Majid expressed the hope that an international Arab conference on the Red Sea will convene, but after preparations are made for it. Dr 'Ismat 'Abd al-Majid made these statements in an interview he gave to *AL-WATAN AL-'ARABI* magazine, published in Arabic in Paris, during his recent stopover in Paris. The interview will be published in the magazine's Friday [17 August] issue.

Dr 'Ismat 'Abd al-Majid described the mines that exploded in different areas in the Gulf of Suez as having been of the primitive type, which indicates that the party that carried out the mining operation is not advanced in this art. He said the mines consisted of explosive charges and were thrown into the sea and had sunk to the bottom. These mines either rise from the bottom by a magnetic force that attracts them to the metallic hull of the ship and then explode, or they explode as a result of the frequency of the sound emanating from the engines. There is another type detonated by a timing device.

The foreign minister added: We were surprised to see that these mines carry up with them an amount of mud from the bottom until they hit the ship. He pointed out that the mines that float on or just under the surface are more dangerous; as for the primitive type that sinks to the botton it is less dangerous and can be thrown overboard from boats.

He said: It is for this reason that we have naturally suspected ships that crossed the canal a short time before the explosions occurred. The first explosion occurred approximately 3 weeks ago and the last was on 27 July in the Gulf of Suez. They were identical. We discovered that some Iranian and Libyan ships had crossed the canal on that date among the 60 ships that cross the canal daily.

Asked if the Iranian and Libyan ships were responsible for the mining operation, Dr 'Abd al-Majid said: I cannot say this. We are approaching the matter very cautiously. We will not level accusations unless we are certain. We have searched some Iranian ships but have found nothing. It could be said that the search was carried out after the ships had discarded their suspect cargo.

Dr 'Abd al-Majid gave two examples about the procedure followed in the canal. He said: A Libyan ship crossed the canal to its destination without being intercepted although it carried a consignment of arms to a state in the south. The ship's captain declared the nature of the cargo in the official statement — this is a legal measure. The Libyan ship continued its journey without any obstacle. A Cypriot ship declared in its statement that it was carrying a consignment of tin but it appeared from an inspection that it carried arms and military equipment. The ship was impounded and its consignment was confiscated in accordance with the powers given to the Egyptian authorities under the 1888 canal agreement. Article 1 of the agreement stipulates that the canal is open to navigation to civilian and warships alike.

Dr 'Abd al-Majid added: Article 10 of the agreement says that the Egyptian regional authorities are entitled to stop ships which

constitute a danger to navigation or threaten the public interest. Generally, 90 percent of the ships' statements are true and correct because it is easy to determine the ship's cargo. We are alert to that.

Answering a question about the presence of sophisticated mines in the south of the Red Sea, Dr 'Abd al-Majid said: We have not so far received adequate information about these mines off the Saudi and the Yemeni coasts. This creates a danger threatening navigation in the Red Sea. Egypt is capable of imposing controls in the canal area and the Gulf of Suez. We have a big naval base in (?Banas). The Egyptian fleet is fully shouldering its responsibility in this area. What transpired in the south of the Red Sea raises a question on whether there is a plan to hinder navigation in this area. The importance of the Red Sea now and in the future is that it constitutes a focal point — more so than the Gulf and the Strait of Hormuz. He stressed that the Red Sea is the second outlet for oil and its importance is increasing in view of the new pipeline projects.

Dr 'Abd al-Majid added that Iraq is laying two pipelines, one of which is going through Saudi territory to Yanbu' while the other is through Jordanian territory to the Gulf of Aqaba, both terminating at the Red Sea. There are several Gulf states laying pipelines that avoid the Strait of Hormuz. There is the Sumed pipeline which is an Egyptian but mainly an Arab project. Work is in progress to increase the capacity of these lines from 40,000 to 80,000 tons yearly. The terminal for this pipeline is on the Mediterranean.

The foreign minister pointed out that the Red Sea will be the focal point for oil during the next 5 years and subsequently the importance of the Gulf and the Strait of Hormuz will diminish. He said that Egypt will shoulder a great responsibility and that it will do so with strength undeterred by mines and explosives. There is a long term strategic and economic plan which will show the importance of the northern Red Sea and that Egypt's position is a prominent one. He added: As a whole we, the Arabs in this area, have every reason to be anxious.

Answering a question about whether such actions would lead to the closure of the Red Sea and to the suspension of navigation, Dr 'Abd al-Majid said: This is impossible. What took place was an attempt to create an obstruction, hindrance, and annoyance. It is a "rear battle" which so far has caused no great damage except what happened to a Liberian ship. Some say that the explosion aboard this ship coming from the Gulf was inside it and not as a result of a mine. I believe that the recent incidents in the Red Sea have drawn our attention to the seriousness of the situation and have made us prepared and have caused us to increase our precautions. All states which have an interest in the freedom of navigation in the Red Sea have made some moves. These moves have not reached their climax yet.

Dr 'Ismat 'Abd al-Majid said: When we received the preliminary information 2 weeks ago, we said that it was a reckless action but it became clear that it was planned. Supposing a ship belonging to a certain state had dropped explosives, this would mean that there would still be mines on the bottom of the sea. This is cause for concern by the Arab states on the Red Sea.

Asked who benefits from the obstruction of navigation in this vital waterway, 'Abd al-Majid said: I accuse no one. I do not know who would benefit. Iran itself would not benefit because the Suez Canal is a vital artery for its communications. Anyone who is capable of sound thinking in Tehran would realize the extent of harm that would befall Iran should Egypt ban navigation to Iranian ships. In such an event, God forbid, all the ships carrying supplies to Iran and transporting Iranian exports to the world will come to a halt.

He said: We do not want to close the canal to anybody, be it Iran or any other state, for the simple reason that Iranian ships are paying $200,000 daily to the Suez Canal Authority. It is not in Egypt's interest to do away with any source of income, especially wheen the Suez Canal's daily income is $4 million. In Tehran, they are entertaining the wrong thoughts because this is what will happen to the ships that try to harm the canal.

'Abd al-Majid added: I imagine that the basic objective of such actions is to harm the canal and Egypt. This, in my opinion, is the height of recklessness due to a lack of awareness of the extent of Egypt's ability to react.

Asked if this means that Egypt can announce [the identity] of the state or states responsible for the mining operation, Dr 'Abd al-Majid said: We are now in the process of finding out the states that are responsible for the harm done to navigation by planting these mines. We are looking into this matter.

He emphasized that Egypt has no interest in escalating the international situation and that, most likely, those who carried out the operation wished to test its reactions. He added that contacts have been made with some of the Arab countries concerned. He said: I have noticed with satisfaction a tendency by some of the Gulf newspapers to call for joint Arab action to confront the situation. Egypt is prepared to take the initiative. He explained that Egypt hopes that an international Arab conference on the Red Sea will convene but only after careful preparations.

Asked if joint Arab action can possibly be taken in accordance with the joint Arab defense pact, Dr 'Ismat 'Abd al-Majid said: It is possible if we can set the pact into motion.

Dr 'Ismat 'Abd al-Majid pointed to the possibility of there being terrorist organizations that have planned the operation just as they plan the hijacking of planes. He said: Frankly, we cannot understand the mentality of those who are behind such things.

Replying to a question about the contacts Egypt has made and whether the Soviets have been contacted as well, Dr 'Abd al-Majid said: We contacted the Americans, the British, and the French; we have not contacted the Soviets yet.

Dr 'Abd al-Majid concluded his interview by saying: The Suez Canal authority is in a state of alert and the measures taken have reassured international commercial circles. The tightening of controls on the canal is easy and it is covered by a very modern electronic system costing $25 million. The main headquarters in Isma'ilia has eight screens that cover navigation in the canal from Port Said to Suez. Any movement in the canal appears on the

screens at the control room in Isma'ilia. Ten miles before arriving at the canal from Port Said and proceeding to Suez, any ship will appear on the screen and necessary directives are given to it. In the north, there is a 17 km two-way waterway and navigation in it is coordinated by the control room.

AL-WATAN AL-'ARABI Interviews Prime Minister 'Ali

NC150922 Cairo MENA in Arabic 0820 GMT 15 Aug 84

[Text] Paris, 15 Aug (MENA) — Prime Minister Kamal Hasan 'Ali has disclosed in a wide-ranging interview published in the Friday edition of the Paris-based *AL-WATAN AL-'ARABI* magazine the six parts of the new Egyptian initiative to stop the Iraq-Iran war. He described the initiative as more balanced in relation to both sides and as meeting their demands. The prime minister said the first part of the Egyptian initiative is based on a principle that would attain national sovereignty for both countries while the second stipulates return to the 1975 borders. The third stipulates a cease-fire according to defined methods. He added that the fourth part is based on obtaining the assistance of international forces to supervise the cease-fire on the borders of the two countries. However, the initiative did not discuss the nationalities of these forces at present. The fifth part of the Egyptian initiative stipulates recognition of the principle of compensation for both sides, and the sixth is based on a discussion of settlement efforts by negotiations, the ultimate end of which will be to ensure the rights over which the two sides differ in a manner that will satisfy them both.

Kamal Hasan 'Ali explained that compensation could be made from an Arab or international financing fund. The question of setting up an international fund was previously discussed at the nonaligned conference in New Delhi in 1983 with a view to compensating both sides for war losses. Kamal Hasan 'Ali denied that Egypt has presented these proposals directly to Tehran. He said Egypt does not have direct or indirect contacts with Iran. He said Egypt presented these proposals to the nonaligned states, which have undertaken to put the initiative in motion through contacts with both sides. He noted Iraqi reservations about the Egyptian initiative and said the success of the initiative depends on how far Tehran is prepared to go at present to halt the war.

Replying to a question on a possible Iranian attack on Iraq, the prime minister said that, as a former military man, he does not see a state like Iran concentrating such forces without intending to take military action. He added that the initiative could be contingent upon the results of the future battle. Kamal Hasan 'Ali expressed his conviction that the security of the Gulf has actually been threatened, because an attack on a ship in the Gulf is regarded as a threat to navigation in it. He said all the parties to the conflict in the Gulf must realize that their interests are interlinked to the extent that if the security of one of the Gulf states is affected, the security of the other states is also affected.

He emphasized that the security of the Gulf is the responsibility of the Gulf states but, nevertheless, the Western states and Japan have very important oil interests in the area, from which Japan imports about 70 percent of its energy, the United States 6 percent, and the West European states about 60 percent. He then referred to the foreign military presence in the Gulf, represented by the 7th Fleet at the entrance to the Gulf in addition to some French and British vessels. He said this military presence is different from military intervention. He said that intervention would take place if the Gulf states ask for it and if they are convinced that the oil sources in their states are threatened in such a manner that they cannot defend them.

He expressed his conviction that an international clash in the Gulf is out of the question despite the Western presence at the entrance to the Gulf and the Soviet military presence in Afghanistan some 400 km from the Arabian Sea. The prime minister ruled out an Iranian land attack on some Gulf states, especially in view of the presence of these fleets, which are capable of swift intervention.

The prime minister spoke about Egypt's stand toward the Palestinian and Lebanese issues and toward the recently much talked-about international conference on the Palestinian question. He said Egypt does not impose Camp David on any party. Israel might attend on the basis of Camp David, and the Jordanian and Palestinian sides might attend on the basis of Security Council Resolution 242. The Palestinians might not be pleased with this resolution or with the Fes summit resolutions. The door is open for discussion and negotiation.

The prime minister called for the remaining months of this year to be a period of preparation for the post-U.S. election period and for paving the way for a comprehensive settlement. He said this settlement requires two fundamental things — continuation of the Jordanian-Palestinian dialogue and a freeze on settlements by Israel. The prime minister warned that time passes quickly. He said prolonging the period of negotiation is not in the interest of the Arabs or of the Palestinians. He added that the building of settlements is continuing and that he is afraid that in the end the Palestinians will find nothing about which to negotiate.

Concerning the international conference on the Palestine question, the prime minister called for the nonrejection of any effort toward peace, but he said there is a very important condition, which is that the parties concerned should agree on the efforts toward a settlement. So long as Israel and the United States refuse to attend an international conference, the Soviet Union cannot convene all the parties. The United States also cannot call for an international conference with which the Soviet Union is not pleased. Kamal Hasan 'Ali affirmed that the solution lies in three points, namely that the peace process be maintained, that the parties negotiate on the condition the building of settlements is stopped, and that the PLO and Jordan participate [in the negotiations]. This requires Palestinian-Jordanian negotiations to agree on the bases of their activity.

Concerning the coming session of the PNC on 15 September, Kamal Hasan 'Ali affirmed that this meeting should decide the policies and trends of the PLO. Either the PLO under 'Arafat will remain alone and the Popular Front and Nayif Hawatimah remain on another side, or there will be an agreement on a unified policy.

Concerning the impact of the coming U.S. presidential elections on the Palestinian issue in the event Mondale defeats Reagan, Kamal Hasan 'Ali said U.S. foreign policy is not shaped by one

person but by the whole administration, plus the Congress. Proof is our previous experience with Carter and Reagan.

Concerning the Lebanese issue and the possibility of Egypt playing a role in securing an Israeli withdrawal from Lebanon, the prime minister said that at the beginning Egypt laid emphasis on the departure of the Israeli forces so as not to prolong the Israeli occupation of Lebanon. Egypt supported the 17 May agreement on the premise that the Israeli presence itself is a danger which is represented by more Israeli intervention in domestic affairs, in addition to its danger to the Lebanese territory.

The prime minister expressed the hope that the Lebanese people will reach a solution if the Lebanese desire for ensuring the current truce in Beirut is maintained. He expressed the hope that the Lebanese sides will agree on a formula or a plan for a solution. After this, what remains is negotiating with Israel on a withdrawal, and negotiating with Syria to withdraw its forces from the Al-Biqa'. The prime minister said Egypt currently has contacts with all the various Lebanese sides to persuade them to reconcile and impose the Lebanese will.

He said Egypt's contacts with Israel on Lebanon have been proceeding since the Israeli invasion began. He said Egypt's stand on the invasion is well known. On 9 July 1982 when the Israeli aggression on southern Lebanon began, he gave a message to President Reagan from President Husni Mubarak. This was the first Arab move regarding the aggression.

The prime minister affirmed that Egypt's contacts with the United States did not stop to secure Israel's withdrawal from Lebanon. He said Israel informed Egypt on more than one occasion of two principal matters; namely, that it does not intend to stay in Lebanon, and that withdrawal cannot be achieved without security arrangements with the Lebanese Government so that conditions in southern Lebanon particularly, will return to their former state. He pointed out that Egypt approves of the security measures to be agreed upon without jeopardizing Lebanon's sovereignty.

Regarding the connection between the results of the U.S. elections, the endeavors for ensuring relaxation in Lebanon, and the possibility of the Lebanese crisis remaining frozen pending the results of these elections, Kamal Hasan 'Ali expressed his belief that Israeli withdrawal from Lebanon depends on the structure of the new Israeli Cabinet and not on the U.S. elections. He said that if the Likud's influence is dominant in the new Israeli Government, there will be no radical change for the time being. There would be a greater possibility of withdrawal if the Labor Party dominated. But should a unity government be formed, it would be difficult to foresee which party would impose its view. We must bear in mind that the Likud is for withdrawal in principle but has not set a time period, whereas the Labor Party has set a time period for a withdrawal.

He explained that Egypt had approved the 17 May agreement between Lebanon and Israel, which was abrogated in light of the desire for a swift pullout of the Israeli forces from Lebanon. He said this agreement could be amended through negotiations if these negotiations are conducted successfully.

'Ali on Response to Expatriates' Recommendations

NC151457 Cairo Domestic Service in Arabic 1130 GMT 15 Aug 84

[Text] Prime Minister Kamal Hasan 'Ali today announced the decisions made by the government in response to the discussions which took place during the week in the committees stemming from the second conference on Egyptian expatriates.

[Begin 'Ali recording] I would like to brief you on the recommendations reached regarding the savings and investments of Egyptian expatriates. First of all, investors, particularly Egyptians, will be granted more preferential treatment and guarantees.[applause] The government assures you that there are no restrictions whatsoever imposed on individual foreign currency accounts whether in depositing, drawing or transferring abroad. No such restrictions exist and none will be imposed in the future. [applause]

Efforts will be made to unify exchange rates so that Egyptians will be able to earn the market value for their transfers.[aplause] Intensive efforts will be made to inform Egyptian expatriates of the various ways to allocate their foreign currency savings — in bonds, investment certificates, and bank deposits — and their comparative advantages with what is offered by some other countries.[applause] Bonds with variable interest rates, as opposed to fixed interest rates, will be issued. [applause]

There will be a stepping up in the policies adopted by the Ministry of Economy and Foreign Trade — policies aimed at opening branches of national banks nearby to Egyptian communities abroad whenever the host countries approve. National banks will be permitted to set up investment projects which will be owned by Egyptian expatriates. The banks will run these projects as long as the expatriates remain abroad.

Policies adopted by firms operating in free industrial zones will be reviewed in light of the needs of Egyptian expatriates, so as to meet these needs, regarding the types of goods and their prices. Egyptian expatriates will also be informed of the available merchandise. The operation methods of the abovementioned firms will be developed and modernized.

Finally, Egyptian expatriates will be asked to propose the kind of investment and savings channels which meet their expectations and contribute to the economic development plan. The government is ready to encourage the implementation of such proposals. [end recording]

The conference held its concluding session this morning following 4 days of meetings during which it discussed various issues with the aim of strengthening ties between Egyptian expatriates and their motherland and enhancing the expatriates' contribution in the development of the Egyptian economy. During the concluding session, 'Ali talked about the 5-year plan accomplishments. Conference Chairman Albert Barsum Salamah also announced the recommendations which have been drafted and approved after the discussions of the conference's five committees.

Communique 1,558 on 14-15 Aug War Activities

JN151617 Baghdad Domestic Service in Arabic 1600 GMT 15 Aug 84

[Communique No 1,558 issued by the Armed Forces General Command on 15 August 1984]

[Text] In the name of God, the merciful, the compassionate. In defense of rights, sovereignty, and principles, our heroic Armed Forces are continuing their activities in the operational sectors agaisnt the forces of the criminal Khomeyniite clique. The results for yesterday evening and today are as follows:

1. One of our forward units fired on an enemy concentration opposite our positions in the northern sector of the battlefield, killing two and destroying one excavator and one vehicle.

2. Using artillery and other weapons, our forward units opened fire on several enemy positions and concentrations in the operational area east of Basra, scoring direct hits and starting several fires.

3. One was killed in the central sector of the battlefield.

4. This morning, the criminal Iranian enemy shelled one of Basra's suburbs with heavy artillery, damaging one house and some civilian establishments.

[Signed] The Armed Forces General Command, 15 August 1984

Ramadan Returns After Visits to Jordan, YAR

JN160631 Baghdad INA in Arabic 0518 GMT 16 Aug 84

[Text] Baghdad, 18 Aug (INA) — Taha Yasin Ramadan, RCC member and first deputy prime minister, returned to Baghdad last night after a 3-day visit to Jordan and the YAR. The Iraqi official held talks with King Husayn of Jordan and his Prime Minister Ahmad 'Ubaydat as well as with YAR President 'Ali 'Abdallah Salih on the general Arab situation, particularly the Iraqi-Iranian war developments, in addition to the means of strengthening Iraq's ties with the two fraternal countries.

Congressman Solarz Arrives in Baghdad

JN160633 Baghdad INA in Arabic 0516 GMT 16 Aug 84

[Text] Baghdad, 16 Aug (INA) — Stephen Solarz, member of the Foreign Affairs Committee of the U.S. House of Representatives, arrived in Baghdad from Kuwait at dawn today on a brief visit to Iraq. His visit comes during a tour of the region's countries to learn about the developments in the area, particularly the Iraq-Iran war.

Meets Ramadan

JN161226 Baghdad INA in Arabic 1200 GMT 16 Aug 84

[Text] Baghdad, 16 Aug (INA) — Taha Yasin Ramadan, first deputy prime minister, today received Stephen Solarz, member of the Foreign Affairs Committee of the U.S. House of Representatives, and his delegation.

They discussed the Arab and international situation, the developments in the Iraqi-Iranian war, its effect on the region's security and stability and on international interests, the Iranian regime's insistence on continuing the war, and its rejction of all efforts and international decisions aimed at achieving peace.

The officer in charge of the U.S. interests department in Baghdad attended the meeting.

Moroccan Cooperation Talks Begin 15 Aug

JN151306 Baghdad INA in Arabic 1235 GMT 15 Aug 84

[Text] Baghdad, 15 Aug (INA) — The meetings of the joint Iraqi-Moroccan committee for economic and technical cooperation began in Baghdad today. The meetings will last for several days.

The Iraqi side to the meetings was led by Finance Minister Hisham Hasan Tawfiq. The Moroccan side was led by Minister of Cooperation Abdelouahed Radi.

In today's session, the two sides discussed the fields of economic, trade, scientific, and technical cooperation between the two countries.

Attending the meeting on the Iraqi side were the Trade Ministry under secretary and a number of the directors general of the Ministries of Finance, Trade, Foreign Affairs, Oil, and Agriculture and Agrarian Reform.

On the Moroccan side, the meeting was attended by representatives of the Ministries of Foreign Affairs, Cooperation, Labor, Trade, Energy and Minerals, the Moroccan Bank, and the Moroccan ambassador in Baghdad.

Briefs

Ninawa Governor Sworn In — Anwar Sai'd 'Umar, the newly appointed governor of Ninawa, was sworn in today before President Saddam Husayn on the occasion of assuming his new post. [Excerpt] [Baghdad Voice of the Masses in Arabic 1100 GMT 15 Aug 84 JN]

U.S. Stand at Population Conference Criticized

JN151140 Amman Domestic Service in Arabic
0500 GMT 15 Aug 84

[From the press review]

[Text] Under the headline "In Support of Falsehood," *AD-DUSTUR* says: The stand of the U.S. delegation to the population conference organized by the United Nations in the Mexican capital, the Joint Israeli-U.S. attempts to hamper voting for the Arab draft resolution denouncing the policy of establishing Jewish settlements in the occupied Arab territories, and the unilateral U.S. support for Israel against the draft resolution submitted for voting yesterday, explains a set of political facts that can be summed up as follows.

1. This superpower, a permanent member of the UN Security Council, can no longer recall that in 1967 it signed the UN Security Council Resolution 242 — a resolution banning the acquisition of others' lands by armed force. Moreover, the United States does not realize that by violating such a resolution which constitutes the only basis accepted by all the parties to the Middle East crisis, it torpedoes what remains of its credibility and foils any possible wagering on its seriousness and political commitment in the future.

2. The United States does not hesitate to support the settlement policy that the Americans previously had described as illegitimate and hampering the peace process, in addition to other descriptions that the United States seems to have gone back on forever.

3. The United States, which has so far not relinquished its role as a mediator in the Arab-Israeli conflict, and which is hampering any international initiative regardless of its source in order to be the only mediator acceptable to both parties, is now announcing publicly that it supports the policy of occupation and expansion, and telling the whole world that it stands at the side of Judaizing the Arab territories, supports the policy of confiscating land from its owners, and acts against restoration of rights.

AD-DUSTUR concludes: Although this U.S. stand is a really bitter and painful one for us, we realize that the Arab situation is more painful and bitter. Therefore, to put matters on the right course, the Arab nation must question itself before questioning others and review its own situation before reconsidering the others' stands. The Arab nation must decide its own affairs before it is too late.

Senator Specter Confers With Foreign Minister

JN151238 Amman Domestic Service in Arabic
1200 GMT 15 Aug 84

[Text] Amman — Foreign Minister Tahir al-Masri this morning received Senator Arlen Specter. They reviewed Jordanian-U.S. relations, the situation in the occupied Arab territories in light of Israel's expansionist practices, and the developments in the region.

Meets Army Chief

JN151236 Amman Domestic Service in Arabic
1200 GMT 15 Aug 84

[Text] Staff Lieutenant General ash-Sharif Zayd ibn Shakir, commander in chief of the Jordanian Armed Forces, received in his office this morning U.S. Senator Arlen Specter. They reviewed some issues of mutual interest.

The U.S. charge d'affaires in Amman attended the meeting.

Bethlehem Mayor Ilyas Frayj Interviewed

JN160959 Amman AD-DUSTUR in Arabic
16 Aug 84 pp 24, 20

[Tawfiq 'Abid dispatch]

[Excerpts] Amman — Bethlehem Mayor Ilyas Frayj has said that it is very difficult to speculate on whether or not Shim'on Peres will be able to form a new Israeli government in view of the complexity and contradictions of the Israeli society, which were revealed in the recent elections.

Frayj said that while the Likud and the Labor Party are competing to form the new government, the settlement fever is mounting in Hebron, which is witnessing a fierce settlement onslaught. He said that 50 percent of the West Bank land has been expropriated, and that the settlement policy would continue regardless of whether the Likud or Labor came to power, because they differ only in method and not in aims.

Frayj said that the 1.3 million Palestinians who live under occupation are demanding their national and political rights free from occupation rule. He said that the West Bank is a sinking ship because there is too much suffering.

He pointed out that thousands of workers have been discharged and the number of unemployed in West Bank and Gaza Strip has doubled, something which will cause extreme poverty among the people.

Frayj said that the Jordanian-Palestinian dialogue should be promoted to the stage of an agreement on crystallizing a political framework. Both sides should move together within a well coordinated, agreed on plan. He said the United States, Britain, France, and Australia, which he visited recently, support such an agreement.

On his talks with the Jordanian officials, Frayj said that he met yesterday with Minister of Occupied Territories Shawkat Mahmud and discussed with him supporting the Bethlehem municipality and lending services to the people.

He also met with Foreign Minister Tahir al-Masri and reviewed with him the situation in the occupied territories and the people's suffering under occupation.

Results of Iraq's Ramadan's Visit Reported
JN151548 Amman JORDAN TIMES in English 15 Aug 84 p 1

[By a *JORDAN TIMES* staff reporter]

[Text] Amman — Iraqi Deputy Prime Minister Taha Yasin Ramadan left Amman Tuesday after talks with His Majesty King Husayn, Prime Minister Ahmad 'Ubaydat and senior Jordanian officials on bilateral relations and economic issues.

During their talks Monday, Mr 'Ubaydat and Mr Ramadan agreed to press ahead with a pipeline project for exporting Iraqi crude from Aqaba.

A statement issued by the Jordanian News Agency, PETRA, quoted them as saying after a second round of talks Monday night that they were determined to implement the project, estimated to cost $1 billion.

Iraq and Jordan have initialled the project agreement, but only half the cost of the pipeline, designed to carry one million barrels per day (bpd) of Iraqi crude, has been pledged by the U.S. Government Export-Import Bank.

In an interview with the *JORDAN TIMES* Mr Ramadan said that while financing was not a problem, failure to get security guarantees for the pipeline was delaying the project.

"Until now we have no security guarantees that Israel would not sabotage the pipeline," Mr Ramadan said.

Mr Ramadan said the American construction firm Bechtel Inc., which is to build the project, had so far rejected security conditions for the pipeline, but he said negotiations were continuing.

The Iraqi leader also said that an American firm has to build the pipeline, "because the U.S. is the only power that can deter Israel from attacking a project executed by a major U.S. company.

The talks Monday night also covered areas of trade, overland transport of goods and greater economic cooperation between the two neighbours.

During his visit to Amman, Mr Ramadan also met with the secretary general of the Council of Arab Economic Unity (CAEU), Mahdi al-'Ubaydi, and discussed with him a number of issues pertaining to the CAEU's work.

They also discussed the CAEU General Secretariat's role in implementing various decisions adopted at the 41st session of the council which was held here during the first week of July.

Mr Ramadan expressed Iraq's interest in the activities of the council and its General Secretariat and stressed Iraq's support of efforts for Arab economic integration.

Iraqi Minister of Trade Hasan Ali, who accompanied Mr Ramadan on the visit, also met with Mr al-'Ubaydi and discussed with him the decision adopted during the 41st session of the CAEU and the executive programmes related to the recommendations of the council.

Later on Tuesday, REUTER reported Mr Ramadan's arrival in the North Yemeni capital, San'a'. Mr Ramadan was met at San'a' airport by North Yemeni Prime Minister 'Abd al-'Aziz 'Abd al-Ghani, the news agency said. It also quoted North Yemeni officials as saying that the Iraqi leaders talks in San'a' were expected to focus on the four- year-old Gulf war between Iran and Iraq.

Mr Ramadan was seen off at Amman airport by Mr 'Ubaydat and senior officials.

Army Chief Promoted to Rank of General
JN151836 Amman Television Service in Arabic 1800 GMT 15 Aug 84

[Text] A royal decree has been issued promoting Staff Lieutenant General ash-Sharif Zayd ibn Shakir, commander in chief of the Jordanian Armed Forces, to the rank of general.

Fatah's Hani al-Hasan Arrives in Amman 15 Aug
JN160803 Amman AR-RA'Y in Arabic 16 Aug 84 p 1

[Text] Amman — *AR-RA'Y* — Hani al-Hasan, Fatah Central Committee member and political adviser to PLO Executive Committee Chairman Yasir 'Arafat, arrived in Amman yesterday. Al-Hasan will meet with a number of officials during his stay in Amman.

Briefs

Ambassador to Brazil Appointed — Amman, 15 Aug (PETRA) — It has been decided that a resident Jordanian Embassy will be opened in Brazil. Hisham ash-Shawwa was appointed as Jordan's ambassador to Brazil. The Brazilian Government has recently opened an embassy in Amman and appointed a resident ambassador to the Royal Hashemite Court. [Text] [Amman PETRA-JNA in Arabic 1420 GMT 15 Aug 84 JN]

Karami Denies He Will Visit Kuwait 17 Aug

NC151113 Beirut Domestic Service in Arabic 1030 GMT 15 Aug 84

[Text] Prime Minister Rashid Karami today denied reports disseminated by some newspapers and private information media that he will visit Kuwait on Friday. The prime minister said any visit he undertakes abroad will be announced at the appropriate time.

Karami Asks for Time To Solve Country's Problems

NC160616 (Clandestine) Radio Free Lebanon in Arabic 0445 GMT 16 Aug 84

[Text] Prime Minister Rashid Karami maintains that differences of opinion on some political and security issues are healthy because they are taking place within the framework of the democracy under which Lebanon is living and after the sound of the gun and the rifle have stopped, which is most important.

Karami described all those who are taken in by the wave of pessimism regarding the situation in Lebanon as weak, because the march of salvation has begun and there is no room for turning back.

He affirmed that the government is going ahead in implementing everything it had undertaken to do in its policy statement. The accumulation of political and security affairs, however, prompt it to follow a step-by-step policy. Karami pointed out that issues requiring a solution are incredibly numerous and need a sufficient period of time to be solved. Everyone must give the government the necessary time and must be reassured that Lebanon will be saved.

Syria's Talas Meets With Al-Jumayyil's Advisers

NC151724 (Clandestine) Voice of Arab Lebanon in Arabic 1630 GMT 15 Aug 84

[Text] Syrian Defense Minister General Mustafa Talas met today with Colonel Simon Qassis, director of Lebanese Army intelligence, and with John 'Ubayd and Michel Samahah [President Al-Jumayyil's advisers] during a luncheon which former Minister Michel al-Murr hosted at his house in (Tighrid). General 'Ali Aslan, Syrian deputy chief of staff; the director of intelligence of the Syrian Forces in Lebanon; and George Khidr, the Greek orthodox bishop of Jabal Lubnan, attended the luncheon. The discussions during the luncheon dealt with political and military developments in Lebanon, particularly the security plan for the mountain and ways of dealing with the problems obstructing its implementation, as well as the situation in the south.

Further on Talks

NC151634 (Clandestine) Radio Free Lebanon in Arabic 1545 GMT 15 Aug 84

[Text] It has been learned that a meeting that lasted approximately 3 hours was held in Al-Biqa' today between Lebanese Army intelligence director Colonel Simon Qassis and Michel Samahah for the Lebanese side and two senior Syrian officials. Reports say that the most important topics raised during the meeting were the security plan for Beirut, the mountain, the coastal line, and the Damascus road. The conferees also discussed the current situation on the airport road following the implementation of the security plan. They also discussed kidnapping incidents and the goals of those who perpetrate these actions.

'Usayran Said To Urge Cancellation of U.S. Arms Deal

NC151716 Beirut Voice of Lebanon in Arabic 1615 GMT 15 Aug 84

[Text] One of the domestic news agencies reported that Defense Minister 'Adil 'Usayran has recommended stopping the deal made with Washington to buy U.S. weapons, including M-48 tanks, 100 APC's, and 50 150-mm guns. 'Usayran has urged that money paid on this deal should be reclaimed.

According to the same agency, one of the deputies has commented on this, saying that the Lebanese Government wants to reclaim its money and stop this deal in order to buy new Soviet weapons. This has caused a crisis with the U.S. Administration.

The administration of the American University Hospital has disclosed that Minister 'Usayran is in good health and will be able to leave the hospital within 24 hours.

Soviet 'Experts' Seen in Al-Biqa' Area

NC151909 Beirut Voice of Lebanon in Arabic 1815 GMT 15 Aug 84

[Text] Five Soviet experts, carrying maps and accompanied by senior Syrian Army officers, have been seen on the As-Suwayri plain in the Al-Biqa' area. Our correspondent in Al-Biqa', who reports this, adds that this area was declared a military zone 2 days ago.

Our correspondent adds that the Syrian forces have set up elevated observation posts along the front with the Israeli forces in western Al-Biqa' and that the Syrian Army can now look deep into the territory under the Israeli forces' control.

Birri Holds Meetings on Israeli Moves in South

NC151412 Beirut Domestic Service in Arabic 1300 GMT 15 Aug 84

[Text] Reports received from the southern area a short while ago say that the Israeli occupation forces are carrying out suspect movements at several villages in the Tyre district apparently in preparation for storming many southern villages and for detaining people. At 1100 this morning, Israeli mechanized forces supported by tanks and armored vehicles cordoned off Ma'rakah in the Tyre district and entered the town after a confrontation with the inhabitants. The Israeli forces arrested many citizens, searched homes, and imposed a curfew in the town.

Reports from the south say that Israeli forces supported by several helicopters moved a short while ago toward Bidyas and Burj Rahhal in an attempt to storm the two towns similar to what happened in Ma'rakah.

Lawyer Nabih Birri, minister of state for southern affairs and reconstruction, received calls from the Tyre area at noon today briefing him on the prevailing situation and on the state of tension in the area. Minister Birri immediately held meetings with senior officials and with ambassadors of the great powers in Lebanon to inform their governments of the aggressive Israeli actions and of the need for ending them immediately.

Calls for UN Measures

NC160933 (Clandestine) Voice of the Mountain in Arabic to Lebanon 0900 GMT 16 Aug

[Text] In an exclusive statement to the Voice of the Mountain radio, Minister Nabih Birri, Amal movement leader, called on the government to move quickly and take practical measures to the UN Security Council and the United Nations levels.

Nabih Birri had contacts with the Foreign Ministry this morning and requested it to distribute a memorandum to the UN Security Council and the United Nations explaining the tragic reality of southern Lebanon and of its inhabitants, as well as the oppressive Israeli practices on the southern inhabitants, and calling on them to take practical deterrent measures against Israel.

Minister Birri saluted the sons of the south in general and the sons of Ma'rakah township in particular for their heroism in confronting the Israeli forces.

Meanwhile, reports from the south indicate that the occupation forces are continuing their aggressive and arbitrary acts against the citizens. Motorized convoys of the occupation forces entered the steadfast township of Ma'rakah today.

Franjiyah Comments on Security, Government Issues

NC151825 Ihdin Radio of Free and Unified Lebanon in Arabic 1450 GMT 15 Aug 84

[Excerpts] Former President Sulayman Franjiyah held his weekly news conference yesterday morning at his summer residence in Ihdin. He commented on various current issues in the Lebanese arena including the security plan, the postponement of the Cabinet meeting, the differences existing between government members, and the situation in the south.

The following discussion took place between Franjiyah and the newsmen:

[Unidentified reporter] Your Excellency, the political situation has suddenly stalemated because of differences between the ministers. In what way can this impasse be ended?

[Franjiyah] Regrettably enough, the situation is extremely grave at present. Cabinet meetings are postponed whenever a Cabinet member boycotts them. After the topics which the Cabinet is supposed to discuss are disclosed, you find that the meeting is cancelled because some disagreement has cropped up. This is very discouraging. If this goes on, with the ministers always getting what they want — be it for individual or sectarian interests — then Lebanon will no longer be the same.

[Reporter] Your Excellency, some people argue that what the government is doing in the security domain is an attempt to introduce a measure of security decentralization. This happened after some ministers declared certain arrangements in their areas. How would you comment?

[Franjiyah] Unfortunately, this is true. I am afraid that we are moving in this direction. In fact, the slightest move in this direction can not only lead to partition or cantonization, but to the establishment of independent republics.

[Reporter] What would you do if this takes place?

[Franjiyah] War and war and war.

[Reporter] Former Prime Minister Sa'ib Salam has visited you of late. This visit has been interpreted as part of an endeavor to establish a unified opposition front.

[Franjiyah] Some politicians have speculated on this. They, however, are unaware of my personal and family relations with Salam. His visit to Ihdin was to carry on a relationship that has endured for exactly 50 years.

[Reporter] Syria wants to close the political file. Do you think that Damascus will play an active role to keep the government together and implement the security plan for the mountain?

[Franjiyah] This is what I am hoping. Certainly, when Syria wants something it gets it.

[Reporter] Your Excellency, there have been proposals to expand the government and enlarge the chamber of deputies. Are you in favor of such proposals, despite the fact that no real changes seem to be taking place?

[Franjiyah] To expand the government, a presidential decree is needed. To enlarge the chamber of deputies needs an amendment of the election laws. If you are speaking about the appointment of new deputies [to the chamber], this can only be done if the Constitution is amended. It will be a long time until the election laws are amended and the Constitution is modified. If the Lord grants us the chance to live that long, then we will see.

[Reporter] Israel is biting off a part of the south. Meanwhile the government is stalling on the security plan. Do you think priority should be given to the security plan or the liberation of the south?

[Franjiyah] Liberation cannot be attained before inter-Lebanese reconciliation is achieved. When such reconciliation takes place Israel will vanish from the Lebanese soil, whether it wants to or not.

[Reporter] Your Excellency, when the security plan for the mountain was discussed, both parties demonstrated willingness to make concessions in favor of the state's lawful authority. Do you think that this approach can rid Lebanon of territorial divisions?

[Franjiyah] Talk has been going on about the security plan for a long time. We have lived the month of August in the hope that it has already been implemented in greater Beirut. You live in Beirut and I am asking you: Is there hope in Beirut? We should not kid ourselves.

Islamic Figures Issue Statement on Developments

NC151535 Beirut Domestic Service in Arabic 1300 GMT 15 Aug 84

[Text] Shaykh Hasan Khalid, the mufti of the Republic, this morning chaired the Islamic meeting which was attended by former Prime Ministers Dr Salim al-Huss and Taqiyy ad-Din as-Sulh; Deputies Jamil Kibbih, Kzaki Mazbudi, Nazim al-Qadiri, and Hasan ar-Rifa'i; and former Ministers Malik Salam, Nasib al-Barbir, 'Abd ar-Rahman al-Labban, Baha' ad-Din al-Bisat, Amin al-Bizri, and Muhammad Iqna'u.

A statement issued at the end of the meeting says: The conferees discussed security and political developments. They affirmed the need for continuing the march which started by implementing the security plan in Beirut and its suburbs and for completing the implementation of the plan by dealing with any existing gaps and by eliminating any illegitimate plans. The legitimate authority must increase its presence and extend its sovereignty over all Lebanese areas.

The conferees discussed the developments in the south, western Al-Biqa', and Rashayya in light of reports about measures by the Israeli occupation forces which cause great anxiety about the future of the homeland, particularly the digging of trenches, seizing lands, and plans for seizing water resources and for diverting the Al-Hasbani river.

The conferees urge the government to speed up the implementation of a security plan which will enable it to restore its control over any area from which the Israeli occupation forces may withdraw and to mobilize international pressure on Israel to force it to withdraw from all the Lebanese territory.

The conferees affirmed the need to adopt the necessary steps for reopening the coastal highway and for ensuring the arrival of the Lebanese Army to the Al-Awwali area to be ready to implement any security plan for the south.

The conferees reviewed developments regarding the Islamic and pan-Arab stance and affirmed the need for safeguarding the unity of this stance, particularly at this phase in which the fate of the homeland and the future of its sons will be determined for generations to come.

Therefore, the conferees believe that it is necessary to intensify contacts with various Islamic and national leaderships to exchange views and to consolidate the fundamentals of a common stance.

Head of Jewish Community Reported Kidnapped 15 Aug

NC151629 (Clandestine) Radio Free Lebanon in Arabic 1550 GMT 15 Aug 84

[Text] According to reports received by Radio Free Lebanon a short while ago, gunmen travelling in an orange Volkswagon have kidnapped Salim Murad al-Jamus — head of the Jewish community in Lebanon — in the Wadi abu Jamil area and taken him to an unknown destination.

Amal Military Official Dismissed, Arrested

NC151605 (Clandestine) Radio Free Lebanon in Arabic 1545 GMT 15 Aug 84

[Text] It appears that the struggle inside the Amal movement is increasing. It was revealed today that 'Ali Ayyub, one of the military officials in the Amal movement, has been relieved of his duties. His house was raided and he and some of his gunmen were arrested.

Phalangists Accused of Preventing Restoration of Power

NC151750 (Clandestine) Voice of the Mountain in Arabic to Lebanon 1630 GMT 15 Aug 84

[Text] The inhabitants of Iqlim al-Kharrub have released the following statement:

The people of the Iqlim al-Kharrub area appeal to the minister of water and electricity resources and to all the ministers to restore electricity to the Iqlim area because the Phalangist gangs still insist on preventing workers from restoring electricity since damage exists in the area controlled by these gangs. We appeal to you to return the electricity or else we will be forced to cut the electricity to the other party through our own means, while reminding you that we are also capable of cutting the water supplies.

'Ayn al-Hulwah Residents Protest Israeli Actions

NC151143 Beirut Domestic Service in Arabic 1030 GMT 15 Aug 84

[Text] 'Ayn al-Hulwah camp residents today staged a strike and demonstrated in the streets of the camp in protest of the shooting of two of the camp's inhabitants by the Israeli enemy forces last night.

The 'Ayn al-Hulwah camp was besieged and stormed over the past few days, resulting in the arrest of a large number of its inhabitants.

Ash-Shar' Receives Senator Arlen Specter
JN151804 Damascus Television Service in Arabic 1730 GMT 15 Aug 84

[Text] Foreign Minister Faruq ash-Shar' received in his office this evening U.S. Senator Arlen Specter and his delegation. The U.S. charge d'affaires in Damascus attended the meeting. The talks revolved around the current situation in the region.

AL-BA'TH Comments on Reportage on Red Sea Mines
JN151315 Damascus Domestic Service in Arabic 0345 GMT 15 Aug 84

[From the press review]

[Excerpt] Commenting on the situation in the Red Sea, *AL-BA'TH* says: Since the explosion of the first mine in the Red Sea, Washington and other NATO capitals have been disseminating both conflicting and consistent information. In either case, it is quiteobvious this flow of information comes from Washington, London, Paris, Rome, and even from Cairo and occupied Jerusalem in odd succession. It intends to obliterate facts and divert attention from themselves as if what matters is whether or not there really are mines in the Red Sea. An example of this contradiction was reported yesterday. While London, through a maritime insurance company, confirmed that a number of mines were afloat on the high seas, the U.S. ambassador in Cairo denied this, saying it was only a rumor. On the other hand, coordination between the NATO capitals is no longer a secret, particularly since hourly news reports are following the movements of the minesweepers, warships, and helicopters proceeding toward the Red Sea under the pretext of clearing the mines planted by unknown hands.

AL-BA'TH continues: The U.S. Administration and its NATO allies have tried to ignore these incidents by diverting the attention of Arab and international public opinion away from this fact. Any observer can draw his own conclusions by simply asking: Who benefits most by planting the mines? Why has the Red Sea been mined and at this particular time? The military concentrations in Arab waters on the pretext of clearing the mines could provide the answer, which is that the unknown hands secretly planting the mines are those that now overtly return to besiege the area militarily to consolidate the presence of the rapid deployment forces in support of the expected Zionist offensive against Lebanon and Syria. The U.S. Administration, approaching presidential elections that no one envies, seeks to explode the Middle East region militarily. Israel, which after its elections is in an even worse state than before, is the side that will most benefit from this explosion.

Mining Viewed as Cover-up
JN160836 Damascus Domestic Service in Arabic 0345 GMT 16 Aug 84

[From the press review]

[Text] In today's comment, the *AL-BA'TH* newspaper deals with the U.S. aggressive role to cover up Israel's new plot to annex southern Lebanon. *AL-BA'TH* says: Reports by world news agencies, citing a diplomatic report from one of the world powers that Israel is working to isolate southern Lebanon, that is, to annex and transform it into a new West Bank, may not be a new development. The timing of the report, however, affirms the close coordination between the U.S. Administration and the Zionist entity. Exploiting the Red Sea mining crisis, the United States has prepared suitable Arab and international reasons for Israel to annex southern Lebanon and create a new fait accompli, with which the international community must deal.

This diplomatic report was leaked as certain parties are attempting to hinder the march of Lebanon's salvation. This means that U.S.-Israeli attempts, either directly or through agents in Lebanon, are continuing. These attempts aim to hinder the march of salvation that was about to realize security, stability, and the unity of Lebanon, if certain obstacles had not suddenly loomed on the horizon. These obstacles, which helped delay the application of the security plan for all Lebanon, came when Karami's government adopted the cause of liberating the south and after some Lebanese Government members affirmed that supporting the Lebanese national resistance in the south is a national issue.

AL-BA'TH points out that any follower of Lebanese events since the Geneva conference will see that the side or sides hindering the march of salvation are the ones which are currently standing alongside Israel and the United States in their move to foil the new Lebanese Government's plan to reunite Lebanon and create a new fait accompli in southern Lebanon which Israel would use as a threat whenever it so desired.

From the beginning of the events in Suez and the Red Sea, Syria warned that a scenario was taking place, one that the United States and Israel want to exploit by carrying out serious measures,such as militarizing the Arab Gulf to cover up any new, aggressive Israeli actions.

AL-BA'TH says in conclusion: We in this steadfast country are perfectly aware Washington and Tel Aviv will not admit their defeat in Lebanon. We always have persistently urged all the Lebanese brothers to set aside their differences, work to unify the Lebanese land and people, and move to confront the Zionist enemy threatening the Lebanese territory and people. We reiterate that the situation in the region is extremely serious, and that the Red Sea events cannot be isolated from events in southern Lebanon. The Red Sea events clearly are a plan to cover up aggressive, expansionist Israeli action.

TISHRIN Raps Shultz' Statement on Lebanon
JN160946 Damascus SANA in Arabic 0730 GMT 16 Aug 84

[Excerpt] Damascus, 16 Aug (SANA) — Under the headline "Lebanon's National and Pan-Arab Security," *TISHRIN*, in its editorial today, writes about the positive indications to complete the Syrian-backed security plans in Lebanon.

TISHRIN accuses some Lebanese parties of continuing their cordial relations with Israel. The paper notes U.S. Secretary of

State George Shultz' statement disclosing new U.S. interference in Lebanon's internal affairs in which he says Syria is preventing the Lebanese Government from holding talks with Israel on security arrangements in the south. The paper says: Shultz' statement and some Lebanese opinions regarding the security plan for the mountain and the north aim at discussing security arrangements with Israel and undermining the security plan for the mountain and the north — a plan which gains its national legitimacy from decisions adopted at the Lausanne and Geneva conferences that are based on reconciliation among the Lebanese who are truly concerned about their homeland's security and unity and the liberation of the south from Israeli occupation.

TISHRIN asserts the great and lofty objective of nationalist Lebanon and of Syria will in the end topple the continued agreement between the enemies of Arabism inside and outside Lebanon, especially as they have exhausted all their potential and have still failed. However, the two parties have not stopped there. The only thing Lebanon has achieved from Washington's promises is death, destruction, invasion, and the Israeli occupation of the south.

TISHRIN concludes: Rashid Karami's government does not need Secretary Shultz to point out the path it must follow to liberate the south. That government is capable of putting an end to all who obstruct the security plans and place their trust in Washington and Tel Aviv.

Differences in Likud, Alignment Stands Reported

TA160726 Jerusalem THE JERUSALEM POST in English 16 Aug 84 pp 1, 2

[Report by diplomatic correspondent David Landau]

[Text] Labour and the Likud neared agreement last night on noncontroversial issues of foreign policy, but remained far apart on the two key issues of settlements and peace talks with Jordan. A Likud participant in the eight-man foreign policy working-group termed a position paper present by Labour "tough and aggressive."

A Labour participant said the Likud side — and most especially Deputy Premier David Levi — had been "unforthcoming and uncompromising" in their response to Labour's formulations. During the three-hour session at the Knesset, the first of the foreign-policy working group, Levi accused Labour of actually "accentuating" its differences with the Likud in its position paper.

After the meeting a Labour source said privately that Levi sought to make Labour accept no less than the entire Likud programme — "and even if we were to accept that, he would be very reluctant to see a unity government set up."

The positions on some of the issues are as follows:

— Settlements — Labour's text proposed that "the existence (of all the settlements in Judaea and Samaria) will be ensured." The Likud side immediately objected that this ruled out, by implication, any expansion or bolstering of the settlements. Some of them were so small and wobbly that merely "ensuring their existence" was a recipe for their early demise, the Likud side argued.

— New settlements — Labour proposed that the creation of any new settlement should require a larger-than-normal Cabinet majority. Likud is holding out for a simple majority.

— Jordan — Labour proposed in its position paper that Jordan be invited to peace talks without preconditions. The Labour side said it was prepared to drop its earlier formulation "without preconditions, on the basis of UN Resolutions 242 and 338." But the Likud side was not impressed by this concession. Likud insists that Jordan be invited strictly on the basis of the Camp David agreement. Justice Minister Moshe Nisim, for Likud, suggested the formulation "to the peace process," which would imply specifically the Camp David peace process.

— Egypt — In a related paragraph, Labour proposed "that the government will act to continue the peace process with Egypt on the basis of Camp David, and will call upon Egypt to resume the autonomy negotiations..." The Likud quickly balked at this, maintaining it implied that while with Egypt Israel would negotiate on the basis of Camp David, with Jordan it would be prepared to negotiate on some other basis.

— Normalization — Here there was virtual agreement on a Labour formulation calling for "strengthening of relation with Egypt on the basis of the peace treaty."

— Lebanon — Here, too, the two sides were near agreement on Labour's proposal that "the government will act to ensure the security of the northern settlements and will act to withdraw the Army (from Lebanon) within a short and prescribed time..." Likud, however, objects to the word "prescribed" and this will be the subject of further negotiation.

On Sunday, the working group will meet again, and the Likud side — Levi, Nisim, Defence Minister Moshe Arens and Minister without Portfolio Ari'el Sharon — will present a position paper of its own.

The Labour team last night was led by Yitzhaq Navon and included Yitzhaq Rabin, Abba Eban and Moshe Shahal.

A Labour participant, summing up the talks, said they were "marginally useful — but nothing will be settled on the key issues of controversy until the question of the premiership and the composition of the Cabinet is resolved."

This question is due to be taken up by party leaders Shim'on Peres and Yitzhaq Shamir at a private meeting, their second since the election.

Informed Labour sources confirmed last night that Yitzhaq Rabin has said he would "not reject out of hand" the idea of rotation of the premiership between Peres and Shamir — provided that Peres had the first term.

Peres, Shamir Do Not Reject Rotating Rule

TA151552 Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew 1500 GMT 15 Aug 84

[Text] Shim'on Peres and Yitzhaq Shamir did not reject out of hand the suggestion that they alternately serve as prime minister, and our correspondent Amnon Nadav has learned today that unofficial talks were held on this issue.

However, to date there is strong opposition against this in the Alignment, especially in MAPAM, which threatens to break up the partnership. In the Likud, too, there are those who oppose the idea, although in the Liberal Party it has supporters. Minister Zvulun Hammer is holding separate talks with Yitzhaq Shamir and Shim'on Peres to try to reach a compromise acceptable to both of them.

Peres Explains Importance of Unity Government

TA151045 Tel Aviv 'AL HAMISHMAR in Hebrew 15 Aug 84 p 2

[Text] "A national unity government should be established, even if only because of the state of the economy in Israel," Labor Party Chairman Shim'on Peres said yesterday in his office during a meeting with members of a U.S. congressional delegation.

The delegation, including members of the congressional subcommittee on trade, wanted to know from the prime minister-designate what his policy would be if he headed the government.

Peres listed the recovery of the Israeli economy as the primary objective of a government headed by him. In Peres' view, even if it is only for this goal, the establishment of a unity government is essential. "The current situation cannot continue for long. Any other government may perhaps be able to plant the seeds of inflation and make it grow and blossom, but the fields cannot bear edible fruit," Peres said.

The head of the Alignment economic team, Knesset Member Gad Ya'aqobi, who attended the meeting, said in answer to a question that the Alignment favored an agreement with the United States about the establishment of a free trade zone.

However, he pointed out that the agreement should take into account that imports from the United States to Israel were four and one-half times as large as Israeli exports to the United States.

The U.S. congressional delegation was accompanied by U.S. Ambassador to Israel Samuel Lewis.

Alignment, Likud Discuss Political Issues
TA151947 Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew 1900 GMT 15 Aug 84

[Text] The meeting of the Likud and the Alignment political teams has ended in the Knesset. The teams will meet again this coming Sunday.

At the next meeting the Likud may present its own document on the political issues. Today the Alignment presented its position paper, which contains its proposals regarding the settlements, Lebanon, Jordan, and Egypt.

Our correspondent Hayim Zissowitz reports that disagreements have arisen on two issues in particular: the settlements and the peace initiative vis-a-vis Jordan. On the settlements issue the Alignment suggested that the establishment of each new settlement be decided by a two-thirds majority of the Cabinet, or by an agreement between just the two large parties. The Likud objected to this, demanding that such decisions be adopted by a simple majority.

On the Jordanian issue, the Alignment proposed that Jordan be invited to join the peace process without preconditions. Our correspondent notes that the Likud submitted a counterproposal changing a previous position which linked negotiations with Jordan to the Camp David accords. Today the Likud representatives proposed that preconditions not be mentioned.

Following the discussion, Minister David Levi said it is inconceivable for Jordan to be invited to join the process on the basis of anything but the Camp David accords.

In his opinion, the Alignment's proposals demand that the Likud join the government on the basis of the Alignment's platform, and the Likud cannot agree to this.

Alignment officials expressed amazement at David Levi's remarks but noted this does not mean the talks are deadlocked.

Alignment Rejects Likud Economic Plan
TA160811 Jerusalem THE JERUSALEM POST in English 16 Aug 84 pp 1, 2

[Text] Tel Aviv — The Likud yesterday failed to persuade the Alignment to participate in an economic programme before the establishment of a new government.

The proposal that the Alignment take part in drawing up such a programme was made by Finance Minister Yig'al Kohen-Orgad yesterday, during the first of the parties' economic negotiating teams. It was rejected by the Alignment representatives, led by Knesset Member Gad Ya'aqobi, on the grounds that the two sides had not yet agreed on guidelines for joint government.

Ya'aqobi told *THE JERUSALEM POST* last night that the chances that the two sides will come to an agreement on economic matters are "pretty good." He added that he expects substantial progress to be made at the next meeting tomorrow, and that an agreement could even be tied up by early next week.

Alignment sources said last night that the Likud proposal must be seen in the context of Kohen-Orgad's efforts to persuade the Histadrut to begin negotiations for a "package deal" that would limit wages, prices and taxes. The Histadrut has steadfastly refused to negotiate, maintaining that the present interim government does not have the authority to make long-term commitments.

The sources explained that the Alignment, too, is unwilling to participate in any programme until a permanent government with clearly defined authority and responsibilities has been established.

Yesterday's meeting was conducted in a "good and serious" atmosphere, participants said. Representing the Alignment were Ya'aqobi, MK's [Knesset Members] 'Adi'el Amoray and Rafa'el Edri, and United Kibbutz Movement Secretary Yosef Perlmutter. The Likud team consisted of Deputy Prime Minister David Levi, Kohen-Orgad, Energy and Infrastructure Minister Yitzhaq Moda'i and Industry and Trade Minister Gid'on Pat.

However, Ya'aqobi cautioned that "obstacles" still stand in the way of an agreement. Sources said that the two sides still disagree over the priority that should be given to freezing settlement, the level of unemployment that is acceptable while the economy is reoriented from services to production, and the composition of the package deal with the Histadrut and the employers.

Of the three, the settlement question could be left to the security and foreign policy negotiations, and the package deal could be left for later, the sources said. But on unemployment, the Likud apparently envisages a far higher level than the Alignment is prepared to accept.

The meeting began with a detailed presentation by Ya'aqobi of the Alignment's proposals for economic guidelines, as contained in a document prepared in advance. Kohen-Orgad and the other Likud representatives questioned certain aspects of the presentation, and a short discussion followed. The discussion was of a general nature, participants said.

The Alignment's proposals were based on the party's economic platform, drawn up before the elections, with suggestions where the two sides could compromise. They included the need to change economic priorities, support for exports and agriculture, a reorientation towards production and exports, and a social contract with the Histadrut and the employers.

Kohen-Orgad appears to be determined to include the Alignment in drawing up a programme, and not just policy guidelines. Speaking to reporters after yesterday's meeting, he said that the test of whatever agreement is arrived at will be the application of an "actual working plan."

Alignment, NRP Reach Agreement on Settlements

TA161116 Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew 1000 GMT 16 Aug 84

[Text] The second meeting between the Alignment and the National Religious Party [NRP] concerning the settlements was held today. The two delegations agreed upon a working paper which will be presented for the approval of the parties. In the working paper it is stated that the rural and urban settlement in security zones, and uncontroversial settlements will continue. Regarding controversial settlements, one-third of the members of the Ministerial Committee on Settlement Affairs will have to present the issue for the final decision of the government. Our correspondent Shalom Oren reports that the two parties decided in the working paper that no existing settlement will be harmed. All the necessary steps will be taken to assure the continued existence and security of these settlements.

NRP Leaders, Weizman Support Unity Government

TA151716 Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew 1600 GMT 15 Aug 84

[Excerpt] National Religious Party [NRP] Ministers Burg and Hammer today held a secret meeting with 'Ezer Weizman and agreed that the two parties would join only a national unity government. Our correspondent Amnon Nadav reports that NRP personages have lately met with representatives of other parties, including MAPAM, in order to try to speed up the talks on forming a national unity government. The MAPAM Secretariat today discussed the lessons to be learned from the elections. Our correspondent reports that Secretariat members opposed the idea of a broadly-based government.

Danish Paper Claims Secret Deal With Syria

PM161035 Copenhagen BERLINGSKE TIDENDE in Danish 14 Aug 84 p 4

[RITZAUS BUREAU report: "Hush-Hush Israeli-Syrian Agreement"]

[Text] Copenhagen — Prior to the 23 June Israeli election Syria and Israel entered upon a series of secret agreements in Geneva which could have "wide-ranging significance" for the whole of the Middle East, *POLITISK UGEBREV*, which is published by the Management Publishing House, wrote yesterday.

According to *POLITISK UGEBREV*, the negotiations which took place between Syrian President Hafiz al-Asad's brother, Rif'at, and high-ranking Israelis, presumably from the Israeli intelligence service, Mosad, ended in a series of agreements covering a Syrian and Israeli withdrawal from Lebanon, new oil routes in the Middle East and comprehensive Israeli arms supplies to Iran through Syria.

POLITISK UGEBREV claims that there are daily transports through Syria involving 40 trucks carrying a total of 1,000 tons of arms, which are transferred to Syrian aircraft in the Syrian capital of Damascus and then flown on to the Iranian regime.

The Israeli trucks are loaded with the arms in the town of Zefat in Galilee and the trucks then cross the Syrian border at the Mishar Hayarden border posts. They then travel on to Damascus.

Another of the complex of agreements covers a partial Syrian and Israeli withdrawal from the Lebanon, in which in a first phase Israeli troops will withdraw from the Al-'Awwali River to the Az-Zahrani River further to the south. At the same time the Syrians will withdraw from the Western part of the Al-Biqa' valley. In a second phase the Israelis will loosen their grip on the southeastern part of Lebanon and the Syrians will leave central Lebanon.

In a final phase the Israeli forces will withdraw entirely from Lebanon and hand over control of the area to the Israeli-supported militia led by Antoine Lahd. However, these forces will be placed under the supervision of the regular Lebanese forces, The Israelis have also insisted on retaining an observation post on Al-Baruk mountain.

Palestinians Said Returning to Beirut

TA161030 Tel Aviv HADASHOT in Hebrew 16 Aug 84 p 6

[Gay Bekhor report]

[Text] "This is only a natural process. Beirut has always been our center in Lebanon, so that returning there was absolutely understandable," a top Fatah source operating in Europe told *HADASHOT*. The source asked that his name remain undisclosed, and also refused to name the commanders of the organization who can presently be found back in Beirut.

"For the moment we cannot talk about a massive return to Beirut, as this is impossible," added the source, known as an 'Arafat associate. "But as more time passes, additional men will return to Beirut. For your information, we have an official Lebanese permit to remain there" (he meant the 1969 Cairo agreement, officially recognizing the PLO stay in Lebanon).

According to sources of "the Lebanese Forces" and the Christian militia in Lebanon, between 2,000 and 2,300 PLO men can be found in Beirut, most of whom returned after the 1982 expulsion. These figures have been confirmed by Israeli intelligence sources, quoted in newspapers throughout the world.

The Palestinians are exploiting the weakness of the Lebanese Government and Army, and are penetrating the area disguised as civilians. Those who are preventing their return are none other than the Lebanese militias from all shades of the political spectrum. This is a nearly impossible coalition, involving Chistians, Shi'ites, Sunnis, and Druze, none of whom want to see the Palestinians regain power in Lebanon.

We have learned that members of the Shi'ite Amal militia examine all Palestinian males who want to enter Beirut, and usually even confiscate their identity cards and personal arms until they leave town. All this notwithstanding, many still manage to enter the town and are reviving the Palestinian nuclei in the refugee camps, engaging primarily in reinvigorating the infrastructure, purchasing or renting apartments and plots, and in establishing caches — in general, in deeply rooting themselves there. Right now the Palestinian presence has not been flaunted, but gradually they are assuming more power as they organize better.

The central camps of Sabra and Shatila are slowly again becoming "extra-territorial" for the Lebanese. For the moment the Shi'ite militiamen have not given up their control there, and very often battles occur. The weak Lebanese Army is refraining from intervening, and the central administration is viewing the process with anxiety and concern, but it is incapable of preventing it.

The returning Palestinians belong to all the various PLO organizations, and each representative cares for the interests of his own movement.

— 'Arafat supporters in Fatah — several hundred of them can be found in Beirut, commanded by (Abu Samir), one of 'Arafat's aides, who — according to Christian reports from Sabra — is there. The 'Arafat backers no longer set the tone among the returning Palestinians, and are merely establishing a political and intelligence infrastructure. The PLO representative in Lebanon, Shafiq al-Hut, who enjoys a semi-official status, is very helpful in this.

— The Fatah rebels — some 570 of them are in West Beirut, and constitute the mainstream in town. Their local commander is (Kamal al-Shaykh).

— "The Popular Front-General Command" (Ahmad Jibril) — some 235 fighters have been setting up an infrastructure and gaining power.

— The pro-Syrian "As-Sa'iqah" — some 600 fighters, 200 of whom arrived in May. One of the commanders to arrive was a woman.

— "The Popular Front" (Habash) — some 245 fighters, 45 of whom arrived recently, following an agreement with the Amal militia.

— "The Democratic Front" (Nayif Hawatimah) — some 250 fighters in West Beirut. In attempts to gain control over Sabra and Shatila, this group fought against the Shi'ite Amal fighters. Right now they are amassing arms and organizing to regain control over the places they had lost.

The top PLO men who returned to West Beirut:

The source for this is the spokesman for the Christian militia, "the Lebanese Forces" in Israel.

— Abu Musa [Sa'id Musa Muragha], the leader of the Fatah rebels. He arrived approximately 6 weeks ago, through the Ash-Shuf mountains, for a secret meeting with the leaders of the Druze militia led by Walid Junblatt. During the meeting in West Beirut, he agreed with militia leaders (Anwar al-Fat'iri) and (Jamal Hamid) on ways for his men to return to Beirut. Later, he must have returned to Al-Biqa'.

— (Abu al-Hul), formerly the PLO's chief of intelligence, is also in Beirut right now, organizing an intelligence and military infrastructure.

— ('Awni al-Hilu), one of the commanders of Fatah's guard unit — "Force 17" — who arrived from Algeria, to organize an infrastructure.

— (Isma'il Najar) — a top commander who is in charge of the Sabra and Shatila area. He arrived from Nicosia.

— (Abu Samir), one of 'Arafat's aides, is in Sabra.

— (Rajab Yasir Sulayman), a senior commander, is organizing underground cells in Sabra.

Officials Downplay Jordan-PLO Confederation

TA151744 Jerusalem Domestic Service in English 1700 GMT 15 Aug 84

[Text] Senior Israeli officials say announcements about a confederation between Jordan and the PLO are meaningless. The officials talked to reporters in Jerusalem today. Jerry Cheslow reports:

[Begin recording] The senior officials say Jordan and the PLO have conflicting interests that prevent them from reaching any real confederation.

The officials claim that were Yasir 'Arafat to allow King Husayn to negotiate on behalf of the Palestinians he would create a split within his own PLO. Jordan had wanted to conduct those negotiations on the basis of the Reagan plan announced in September 1982. It would have given Jordan virtual control over the areas.

At the time King Husayn had brought his parliament out of mothballs as a trial balloon, said the officials, but the negative response inside the PLO had discouraged him. So why announce the confederation at this point? The officials maintain that the PLO and Jordan have to show some progress in their negotiations.

This might prevent their loss of influence in the territories because of the general despondency there over the confusion in the Arab world in relation to the Palestinian problem.

Officials on Talks Venue for Tabah Dispute

TA160500 Jerusalem THE JERUSALEM POST in English 16 Aug 84 p 2

[Report by the diplomatic correspondent]

[Text] Israel has received no proposal from the U.S. to hold talks in Washington on the Tabah border dispute with Egypt. Officials in Jerusalem said yesterday they "know nothing" of any such American proposal.

On Tuesday, Egyptian Foreign Minister 'Ismat 'Abd al-Majid said the U.S. had proposed talks in Washington and Egypt had agreed. His remarks were reported by the MIDDLE EAST NEWS AGENCY. He did not say when the proposal had been made.

The Israeli officials said that the Tabah negotiations, "like all other bilateral issues between Israel and Egypt," should be held in the two capitals, Cairo and Jerusalem.

They noted that Israel was ready, as in the past, to hold talks with Egypt at venues other than the two capitals on interim arrangements for Tabah, but not over the final disposition of the disputed beach site near Elat.

There have been sporadic discussions on the interim regime at the site under the Israel-Egypt agreement of April 1982. But that agreement also provided for negotiations — "conciliation or arbitration" — over the final disposition, and these have never begun. In part this is due to the deadlock over venue (Egypt is reluctant to talk in Jerusalem); in part, too, it is due to the general freezing-over of relations between the two countries in the wake of the Lebanon war.

Military Reports Lebanese Civilian Shot

TA151938 Jerusalem Television Service in Hebrew 1800 GMT 15 Aug 84

[Text] Military sources this evening reported their version of the report published this morning by the British newspaper *THE GUARDIAN*, according to which Israeli security men shot a southern Lebanese civilian. The sources say that the man in question is Murshid Mahd from the village of Bidyas, which is located near Tyre. There were reports that he took part in shooting incidents against the IDF. According to the sources, when the security forces tried to detain him he resisted and tried to escape with the assistance of residents from the village. During the attempted escape he was shot and killed.

Sources in the UN forces in southern Lebanon told our military correspondent Moshe Shlonsky that on 14 June four civilian cars carrying plainclothed Israelis entered the village of Bidyas. The UN posts in the area saw them, but the latter aroused no suspicion because Bidyas is considered to be a quiet village.

According to local residents, the cars reached the center of the village where they detained the 28-year old Murshid Mahd, who owned a motorcycle repair shop and was a member of the Amal organization

According to the testimony received by the UN people, Mahd was shot in the center of the village, in front of his family and other residents. To repeat, military sources say the man was shot while trying to escape.

IDF Fence Repair in South Lebanon Explained

TA151254 Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew 1100 GMT 15 Aug 84

[Text] According to Radio Monte Carlo the UN forces in southern Lebanon complained to the IDF that shots were fired at a team of UN observers who had come to the area of the Al-Wazzani springs in the region of the villages of (Rajr) and Al-Wazzani, a place where one of the fences was being repaired.

Southern Lebanese television reported that the commander of the area's army, General Lahd, asked the IDF to stop the work and our correspondent Hayim Hecht was told by Lahd's headquarters that the work was indeed stopped. It was stressed that there was no question of diverting water or changing borders, but of technical repairs to a fence for the benefit of the inhabitants.

Israel's coordinator of activities in Lebanon, UriLubrani, said the entire storm was unjustified and the reports that Israel was trying to take over water sources in Lebanon were incorrect.

July Consumer Prices Rise Record 12.4 Percent

TA151513 Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew 1400 GMT 15 Aug 84

[Text] The consumer price index rose by 12.4 percent last month and the yearly rate of inflation now stands at about 400 percent. According to the Central Bureau of Statistics, prices rose 354 percent during the past 12 months. Our correspondent Gadi Sukenik reports that the average monthly inflation rate stands at 14 percent. This is the highest percentage for any July since the State of Israel was established, and is twice as much as the July 1983 index. The wholesale price index for industrialists this time rose by a larger percent than the consumer price index — by nearly 16 percent. Wage earners will receive a cost of living increment of about 10 percent in their next paycheck. The rise of the index in points is 4934.1.

The Finance Ministry reacted to the high increase saying this is further proof that coordinated action must be taken to freeze prices, wages, and taxes. The government, the Histadrut, and the employers should all share in this action, according to the Finance Ministry.

Histadrut Secretary Yisra'el Qeysar said that the index reflects the highest July price increase since Israel was founded, despite the government's pre-election activity. He warned that any government intention to impair the work or the cost of living increment agreements will meet with strong opposition from the Histadrut. Qeysar told our correspondent Moshe Nestelbaum that the cost of living increment agreement nevertheless makes it possible to give the wage earners some compensation for such a steep increase in the index.

The industrialists say that the July index reinforces their argument that the two large parties should immediately reach an agreement on economic matters and establish a program for economic recovery, the main point of which must be a real cut in the budget and public spending. The industrialists also say that now that the index has been released, bank interest rates in real terms will go up 80 to 90 percent a year, and such interest rates greatly endanger the survival of many factories.

In the wake of the increase in the index, the travel tax will go up to 28,170 shekels as of midnight tomorrow.

Kohen-Orgad Refuses Settlements More Money

TA151953 Jerusalem Television Service in Hebrew 1800 GMT 15 Aug 84

[Excerpt] Finance Minister Yig'al Kohen-Orgad refuses to release more money for purposes of settlement in Judaea and Samaria. Our correspondent has learned that Kohen-Orgad met yesterday with representatives of the settlers from the territories who complained that financial difficulties have caused a halt to projects in the settlements. About half of the houses built by the Jewish Organization in Judaea and Samaria settlements will not be inhabited because there is no money to furnish them with water and electricity.

Tarif Reiterates Denial of Boycott Support

TA151406 Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew 1300 GMT 15 Aug 84

[Text] Shaykh Amin Tarif today completely denied the rumors claiming he supports the religious boycott imposed by Druze clerics in the Golan Heights against those who have acquired Israeli citizenship. Our correspondent Gabi Zohar reports that rumors to this effect were spread in the Galilee because the Shaykh did not outright oppose the boycott. To repeat, today Shaykh Tarif denied the rumors and noted that he respects the Golan Druze who have acquired Israeli citizenship.

Druze Urged To Stop Boycott

TA160717 Jerusalem THE JERUSALEM POST in English 16 Aug 84 p 3

[Text] Qiryat Shemona — Senior police officers met yesterday with Druse leaders in the Golan Heights and advised them strongly to lift their boycott of local Druse who have taken Israeli citizenship.

About 200 Golan Druse who hold Israeli citizenship became known to Druse extremists last month when they voted in the Knesset elections. The boycott includes barring their children from Druse schools.

Today Shaykh Salman Tahir, a Golan Druse notable, is due to publicize the names of those under boycott. The police officers yesterday warned him not to take this step.

Earlier in the week, the director-general of the Prime Minister's office, Matityahu Shmuelevitz, met with representatives of the Golan Druse, the Interior Ministry and the Police. The Druse asked that they be permitted to trade with Syria, that their students be permitted to study in Damascus and that the border crossing at Majdal Shams be opened for mutual visits by Golan and Syrian Druse.

Also yesterday, the Israeli Druse spiritual leader, Shaykh Amin Tarif, speaking in Julis, denied reports that he had condemned Golan Druse who took Israeli citizenship. The contrary is true, he said.

Nabulus Being Connected to Main Electricity Grid

TA151256 Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew 1100 GMT 15 Aug 84

[Text] The Electric Corporation is completing the connection of Nabulus to the national electricity grid. Our correspondent Me'ir Einstein reports that this connection is being done in accordance with a request by the Judaea and Samaria command headquarters. The Electric Corporation will supply 2 and 1/2 megawatts, and the rest of the requirements will be supplied by the municipality's generators. The accounts will be submitted by the Electric Corporation to the Judaea and Samaria command headquarters, not to the consumers.

Uruguayan President Cancels Middle East Visits

TA160853 Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew 0721 GMT 16 Aug 84

[Text] The Uruguayan ambassador to Israel officially notified the Israeli Foreign Ministry of the cancellation of the visit of Uruguayan President General Gregorio Alvarez, scheduled for the end of the month, at the initiative of the Uruguayan president. The cancellation was based on the election proceedings in Uruguay, which will take place in November after 10 years of military government. However, our correspondent Gid'on Remez reports that President Alvarez announced his intention to visit Israel some days after an agreement with the civilian parties to conduct elections in his country was reached.

Last night it was reported in Uruguay that the president decided to cancel his visit to Israel and Egypt after consultations with the foreign minister. The Ambassador to Israel said this morning that the secretary to the Presidency of Uruguay will visit both countries and give full explanations.

Extradition of Trifa From Portugal Being Viewed

TA160719 Jerusalem THE JERUSALEM POST in English 16 Aug 84 p 2

[Excerpt] Israel has no extradition agreement with Portugal but may try to seek the deportation of Romanian war criminal Valerian Trifa for trial here if it can gather enough evidence to convict him, Justice Ministry spokesman Yitzhaq Feinberg said yesterday.

Meanwhile, in Lisbon, no immediate confirmation was available of the arrival of Trifa, 70, deported from the U.S. on Monday night.

Portugal granted an entry visa to Trifa, a Romanian Orthodox archbishop without knowing his past, the Portuguese news agency NOTICIAS DE PORTUGAL reported yesterday.

Trifa was a leader of the Romanian Iron Guard, which massacred hundreds of Jews and Christians in Bucharest in January 1941.

"We think Nazi criminals should be chased, and if Trifa has been thrown out to wander like a nomad, that's part of what we want...But we are not completely satisfied yet, and don't see this as the end of the road," Feinberg said.

Beirut Jewish Community Leader Kidnapped 15 Aug
TA151822 Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew
1800 GMT 15 Aug 84

[Text] One of the leaders of the Beirut Jewish community, Salim al-Jamus, was kidnapped from a Beirut synagogue this morning. The background of the incident is not clear.

Briefs

Planes to New Guinea — New Guinea has decided to buy three Israeli-made military transport planes of the Arava class. The value of the deal is $10 million. The first plane is to be delivered within 4 months. [Text] [Jerusalem Domestic Service in English 1700 GMT 15 Aug 84 TA]

ALGERIA

Venezuelan Minister Arrives, Comments on OPEC Tour

LD152350 Algiers Domestic Service in Arabic 2300 GMT 15 Aug 84

[Text] The Venezuelan minister of energy and mines, Arturo Hernandez Grisanti arrived in Algiers Wednesday evening on a visit to our country following his tour with the OPEC delegation of several OPEC countries, with Brother Belkacem Nabi, the Algerian minister of energy and chemical and petrochemical industries, and Dr Mani' Sa'id al-'Utaybah, UAE minister of oil and mineral wealth. Brother Belkacem Nabi arrived in Algiers on the same plane with Hernandez-Grisanti. The Venezuelan minister made a statement in which he pointed out that the tour of the OPEC delegation to a number of the OPEC countries had been very successful. The heads of these states supported all the measures it had taken. He added that we in the OPEC are capable of facing all problems and of overcoming all pressures brought to bear on the organization.

LIBYA

Al-Qadhdhafi Receives OPEC Ministerial Delegation

LD151956 Tripoli JANA in Arabic 1830 GMT 15 Aug 84

[Text] Tripoli 15 Aug (JANA) — The brother leader of the revolution today received the OPEC ministerial delegation which includes Dr Mani' Sa'id al-'Utaybah, UAE minister of petroleum and natural resources; Belkacem Nabi, the Algerian minister of energy and petrochemical industries; and the Venezuelan minister of energy and mines, Dr Arturo Hernandez Grisanti.

MOROCCO

Maghreb Invited To Join Union Treaty

LD151516 Rabat MAP in English 1258 GMT 15 Aug 84

[Text] Rabat, Aug 15 (MAP) — Morocco and Libya have invited other countries of the Maghreb to join in the treaty instituting a state union that was signed Monday in Oujda (eastern Morocco) by King Hassan II and Col Mu'ammar al-Qadhdhafi, declared adviser to the Moroccan sovereign, Ahmed Reda Guedira upon leaving Tunis Tuesday evening. Mr Guedira also indicated that the treaty will be the object of a referendum in each of the two countries. Mr Guedira had taken part in the talks held between Col al-Qadhdhafi and Algerian President Chadli Bendjedid Monday in Algiers and in the Libyan-Tunisian talks held Tuesday in Tunis.

USFP-Socialists Issue Communique

LD151535 Rabat MAP in English 1247 GMT 15 Aug 84

[Text] Rabat, Aug 15 (MAP) — The Political Bureau of the Moroccan party "The Socialist Union of Popular Forces" (USFP-SOCIALIST) held a meeting Tuesday to discuss the impact of the historical treaty instituting a state union between Morocco and Libya that was signed by the two countries' heads of state, King Hassan II and Col Mu'ammar al-Qadhdhafi on Monday in Oujda (eastern Morocco), announced a communique of the USFP. During this meeting, the communique indicated, the Politbureau decided to convene a special session of the party's Central Committee next Saturday to discuss the treaty instituting a state union whose meaning and impact are of a considerable importance to the future of the grand Arab Maghreb.

Papers Support Treaty

LD151526 Rabat MAP in English 1255 GMT 15 Aug 84

[Text] Rabat, Aug 15 (MAP) — Several national dailies devoted this Wednesday their editorials to the Moroccan-Libyan treaty instituting "a union of states" and signed Monday in Oujda (eastern Morocco) by King Hassan II and Col Mu'ammar al-Qadhdhafi.

L'OPINION, organ of the Istiqlal Party (Social Democrat), "hailed this historical event "and hoped that the other countries of the region would join Morocco and Libya in the edification of the Grand Maghreb and the materialization of the unity of the Arab nation.

On its part *AL-BAYAN*, organ of the Party for Progress and Socialism [PPS-Communist], wrote that Morocco will never give up exerting efforts aimed at promoting cooperation and understanding among Maghreban and Arab peoples. The reinforcing of unitary ties between Maghreban and Arab peoples, the daily went on, must be positively appreciated, since it is an effective contribution of the Arab nation's action against imperial-Zionism.

The Constitutional Union daily *RISSALAT AL-UMMA* wrote, on its part, that the results of the meeting between King Hassan II and Col Mu'ammar al-Qadhdhafi ought to inspire satisfaction among all the Arabs, for the ensolidation of relations between two Arab countries can help improve inter-Arab relations at large.

SUDAN

President Numayri Ratifies State Budget Draft

JN151901 Khartoum SUNA in Arabic 1800 GMT 15 Aug 84

[Excerpt] Khartoum, 15 Aug (SUNA) — President Ja'far Numayri this morning ratified the general state budget draft in accordance with specified controls and directives. This came during the President's Council's second meeting, which was assigned to review and discuss the general state budget draft and the development budget estimates for the new fiscal year.

TUNISIA

President Receives Algeria's Messaadia

LD151647 Tunis Domestic Service in Arabic 1300 GMT 15 Aug 84

[Text] This morning President Habib Bourguiba received at the presidential palace in Saqanis Mohamed Cherif Messaadia, member of Political Bureau and official of the Permanent Secretariat of the FLN Central Committee and the envoy of President Chadli Bendjedid. The meeting was attended by Prime Minister and Interior Minister Mohamed Mzali, Foreign Minister Beji Caid Essebsi, Mongi Kooli, personal representative of the president; Minister for Civil Service and Administrative Reform el-Mezri Chekir, and Algerian Ambassador in Tunis Abdelghani Akbi.

Mohamed Cherif Messaadia made a statement following the meeting in which he said:

[Begin Messaadia recording] As I have said, I have come as an envoy from H.E. President Chadli Bendjedid to H.E. President Habib Bourguiba. This mission is within the framework of the (?agreement) between us, in which the two presidents specified the principles and objectives, including consultation and coordination, with regard to all issues of interest to both countries. I have conveyed a message to H.E. President Habib Bourguiba, and I met with great understanding from him. This shows the identity of views regarding issues of mutual interest. I am very happy to be here in Tunis. [end recording]

President Habib Bourguiba invited to luncheon his guest Mohamed Cherif Messaadia and those present.

WESTERN SAHARA

APS: Saharans Claim 13 Moroccan Troops Killed

LD151652 Algiers APS in Arabic 1500 GMT 15 Aug 84

[Text] The Liberated Territories, 15 Aug (SPA) — In a statement issued today, the Saharan Ministry of Information announced that the fighters of the Saharan People's Liberation Army yesterday and on Sunday shelled the positions of Moroccan Enemy Forces concentrated in Rous El Jachbien between Zag and Jdiria. The shelling continued for several hours. The statement added that the fighters of the Saharan People's Liberation Army attacked a position of the royal forces in Oudei El Ouerg, in Amgala region, 3 times. The statement concluded by explaining that as a result of these attacks, 13 Moroccan soldiers were killed and 20 others wounded, and a 23-mm double barrel battery was destroyed as well as several trenches and fuel dumps.

KENYA

Moi Announces Minor Cabinet Reshuffle

EA151402 Nairobi Domestic Service in English 1300 GMT 15 Aug 84

[Text] The president, Daniel arap Moi, has announced a minor reshuffle affecting four ministers and three permanent secretaries.

The minister for lands and settlements is now Mr Eliud Mwamunga, who has swapped with Mr Paul Ngei, who is now the minister for environment and natural resources.

The minister for cooperative development is Mr Henry Kosgey, who has taken over from Mr Peter Okondo, who is now to become the minister for transport and communications.

Professor Peter Gachie has moved from [permanent secretary for] lands and settlement to be the permanent secretary in the Energy and Regional Development Ministry.

[Permanent Secretary in the Ministry of Culture and Social Services] Mr J.K. Ndoto has moved to lands and settlement. Mr James Karuga has moved from [permanent secretary for] energy and regional development to become the permanent secretary for culture and social services.

SOMALIA

President, Delegation Return From Saudi Arabia

EA151055 Mogadishu Domestic Service in Somali 2045 GMT 14 Aug 84

[Excerpt] Somali President Challe Mohamed Siad Barre and his delegation returned to the country this evening at the end of his 4-day official visit to the Kingdom of Saudi Arabia. In an interview with Mogadishu TV and radio at the presidency, he said his delegation's talks with Saudi Government officials and heads on bilateral relations and collaboration, the Horn of Africa, the Red Sea, the Gulf, and Arab and international affairs ended in complete success with both parties sharing identical views.

The president sincerely thanked the government and the people of Saudi Arabia for the warm welcome accorded him and his delegation from their arrival in the country. He added his visit followed an invitation extended to him by the Saudi Government.

Asked about his meeting with members of the Somali community living in the Kingdom of Saudi Arabia, Challe Siad said he briefed them about the country's internal and external policies pointing out the importance of investing their wealth in their own country so as to play a part in the advancement of their society. He called on them to safeguard the dignity of their nation. The president sent greetings to Somalis living in and outside the country stressing the need to consolidate their unity and cooperation. He urged them to be productive. He quoted a proverb saying: You can only be satisfied with water drunk from your own hands. The presidential party left the country 11 August.

CAMEROON

Habre Comments on Talks With Biya, Chad

AB151915 Yaounde Domestic Service in French 1200 GMT 15 Aug 84

[Text] The time has come for the implementation of the conclusions of the friendly and working visit made by President Hissein Habre to our country. The trip, the talks, and the contacts ended this morning and were preceded yesterday by the publication of a joint Chad-Cameroon final communique. Before leaving for Chad, President Hissein Habre held a press conference. I invite you to to listen to this press conference:

[Begin recording] [Unidentified reporter] Mr President, you just ended your first working visit to our country since the coming into power of President Biya. What lessons do you draw from this first visit?

[Habre] You are aware that Chad and the Republic of Cameroon have long-standing and intense relations of cooperation, friendship, and fraternity and my visit falls within this framework. We reviewed with my brother and friend, President Paul Biya, all the issues of mutual interest. We also examined problems concerning our subregion, Central Africa, Africa as a whole, and the current burning world issues. I must tell you that our discussions were very intense, fruitful, detailed, and there was agreement and identity of views on all issues. I must also tell you that I am returning to Chad with great memories of this country. My feeling is that this visit has once again permitted us to strengthen our growing relations which continue to remain very close.

[Reporter] Mr President, after the creation of the UNIR [National Union for Independence and Revolution] what are the chances of success for the proposed Brazzaville conference?

[Habre] You know that Chad is trying to wage several battles on several fronts, namely secure peace on the domestic front, strengthen national concord, defend and rebuild the country, and, of course, actively seek reconciliation with our brothers who are living abroad. This is why [words indistinct] we have been working hard in conjunction with the true friends of Chad, and I must say that from the African point of view, the heads of state, brothers, and friends are also making similar efforts to make the Brazzaville conference a success. President Paul Biya is also working in this direction. But I will tell you that we ourselves and Africa, in view of our experiences with the Chadian problem, are striving to make this meeting a positive and successful one in the interest of Chad, our subregion, and in the interest of world peace. This is why we are proceeding carefully because, as you know, the Chadian problem has both internal and external aspects, notably interference and aggression from our northern neighbors, especially from Libya. Therefore it is a serious problem that should not be viewed in an oversimplified manner. It is because the problems were underestimated that the Addis Ababa conference failed. We are now working in a serious manner to make sure that the Brazzaville conference will achieve the required objectives, namely, peace, national concord, the preservation of Chad in all its rights — its right to preserve its national unity, its sovereignty, its territorial integrity, and its right to a free life protected from foreign attacks, interference, and aggression.

[Reporter] Mr President, in spite of all these problems, a dynamic peace process is now underway in Chad. How do you view the evolution of this country?

[Habre] I must tell you that we are optimistic. We are optimistic and, thank God, today the internal situation is good. From the political angle, the creation of UNIR was a very important decision. For the first time it gives Chadians a movement of national dimensions with national ambitions that correspond to the deep aspirations of our people for unity, peace, and concord. National reconstruction is underway, and security is ensured in our country. Obviously there is the problem of the north, which is occupied by another country, and which constitutes a very serious problem for us. I must say that we are optimistic even on that level because the Chadians who have enlisted in the Islamic Legion are increasingly questioning the legality of the Libyan action. This explains the numerous desertions and rallying to Ndjamena.

[Reporter] Mr President, will the frequency of your personal contacts with the Cameroonian head of state increase, taking into account the strengthening of the relations of cooperation between Chad and Cameroon as stated in the joint communique that was signed yesterday? In this regard, do you intend to invite your brother and friend to Ndjamena in the coming days, weeks, or months?

[Habre] In fact, the joint communique signed yesterday shows how intense and diversified our cooperation is. Our contacts and our exchange of views will be increased in order to strengthen and monitor the various aspects of our cooperation. We will, therefore, be very very happy to see President Paul Biya in Ndjamena and I hope he will be able to pay a visit. [end recording]

CHAD

Goukouni on Unity, Ties With 'Progressive' Countries

AB152144 (Clandestine) Bardai Chadian National Radio in French 2000 GMT 15 Aug 84

[Speech by Goukouni Oueddei, president of the Transitional National Union Government, GUNT, and chairman of the newly created National Liberation Council, CNL, at an "important mass rally" in Bardai; date not given — recorded speech in french followed by sentence-by-sentence translation into three local languages]

[Summary] "On the external front, the creation of the National Liberation Council will make it possible to mark our presence in the progressive camp and to demonstrate more rigor. Past practices which we have experienced within the Transitional National Union Government since 1979 must stop as soon as the CNL and

the GUNT have been set up. [sentence as heard] From now on, everyone at his level — including ourselves — must assume our responsibilities and put a halt to the bad old ways. We must all stand up like one man behind the CNL in order to free our fatherland from the occupation.

"Comrade Militants, that is the move which we are going to make in order to restore order at home and check any anarchic climate that can harm the the revolutionary cause of the Chadian people. It is quite obvious that without the political goodwill demonstrated by everyone, without the sense of understanding and patriotism shown by the faction leaders, we would have found it difficult to reach these results. I therefore want to sincerely thank them and warmly congratulate them for having surpassed themselves in the supreme interest of the Chadian people and their revolutionary struggle. Also, the safeguarding of our development and the consolidation of this important achievement require the participation of all militants in the anti-imperialist struggle for national liberation. In this connection, every necessary theoretical and practical measure will be taken in order to ensure that the opportune decisions concerning the smooth process of the Chadian revolution will be translated into facts.

"As from now, with the establishment of the CNL, there will be a demarcation line between the honest patriots actually fighting to free Chad and the traitors and agents of international imperialism, as well as all kinds of opportunists who have taken advantage of our division and laxity. As from today, the only criteria for the assessment of militancy is the militants' capacity to get involved practically in the anti-imperialist liberation struggle.

"The efforts which we have made result from our revolutionary struggle" and will be useful for the continuation of our struggle. "For we can count on the important GUNT political and military forces who only need to be rationally organized in order to free the national territory from the yoke of imperialism and of Hissein Habre's reactionarry forces.

"The exciting task ahead of us is compounded by the tragedy of our countrymen in parts of our national territory under French and Zairian occupation whose suffering has reached an intolerable degree. As a matter of fact, while the puppet group is only preoccupied by the conquest of power, the Chadian people on the other side are subject to all sorts of unbearable regulations. In the meantime, poverty, hunger, extortion, and organized looting have become the daily ills of male and female Chadians. The worsening conditions under the dictatorial, bloodthirsty, and terrorist regime in Ndjamena calls for an urgent and appropriate response from the patriotic forces.

"We must be ready for peace and for war. The truth is that despite our total availability to find a negotiated solution to the Chadian crisis, we (?cannot rely on the enemy)." But we are ready to contribute to a peaceful settlement of the problem, especially as the enemy has resorted to delaying tactics in order to keep the people in suffering. "I must repeat that we must draw lessons from the past and we must firmly take into account the fact that the popular masses support our action."

"Comrade members of the government, comrade militants, we must realize one fact: Our progressive policy is disturbing international imperialism which is trying to (?neutralize) us." The massive presence of imperialist troops in Chad reflects their worries. As for us, we will continue to fight with the assistance of the combatants of Africa.

"Concerning our relations with the Socialist People's Libyan Arab Jamahiriyah, we are pleased to inform you that our talks with our Libyan brothers have enabled us to clarify and better define relations between our two states. In fact, henceforth only the Transitional National Union Government will benefit from Libyan assistance. The reason for this is to put an end to the political and organizational inconsistencies in our external relations. These inconsistencies do not make it easy to assist the Chadian people and they render meaningless all forms of assistance which the Jamahiriyah and other progressive countries used to give to the various political factions within and outside the GUNT. In general, our ties of cooperation with the Socialist People's Libyan Arab Jamahiriyah, born out of the common anti-imperialist struggle, are excellent. Similarly, we want to make it our policy to be more open to the outside world, in particular to all friendly and progressive states on the continent and elsewhere, but also to all peace-, freedom-, and justice-loving states." "In view of the new political reality, the cooperation of all the progressive factions is necessary. It is in the general interest of our people."

Western Armed Forces: Not Bound by Burkina Decision

AB152137 (Clandestine) Bardai Chadian National Radio in French 2050 GMT 15 Aug 84

["Press communique" issued by the Command Council of the Western Armed Forces, FAO, on 13 August in Bardai]

[Text] The Command Council of the Western Armed Forces, CCFAO, is a democratic political body and therefore all decisions or communiques issued unilaterally by any of its members is not binding on it. As a matter of fact, the CCFAO replies to Comrade Moussa Medjela saying that the Burkina Faso decision is binding on him alone — and only him. In fact, it is quite illusory for the latter comrade to pretend to speak on behalf of the movement, because he deserted the headquarters, Bardai, since its last congress here 15 months ago.

The CCFAO gives up to 1 month to Comrade Moussa Medjela to report to the headquarters and give accounts. After this deadline, it will feel obliged to take exemplary sanctions. The CCFAO further renews its trust and belief in the National Liberation Council, in the Transitional National Union Government, of which it is a member, and in its president, who leads the struggle to free the Chadian people from the imperialist yoke,

Issued in Bardai on 13 August 1984.

Bardai Claims Attack on Military Convoy in South
AB152112 (Clandestine) Bardai Chadian National Radio in French 2050 GMT 15 Aug 84

["Military communique"]

[Text] On 14 August, the Transitional National Union Government revolutionary forces dealt a hard blow to the reactionary hordes. As a matter of fact, a military convoy which was traveling to Massaguet from Moussoro fell in an ambush laid by a National Liberation Army [ANL] commando. Several vehicles, including one Venera, were destroyed along with their contents. In the face of the intense attack carried out by our elements, the enemies were forced to ask for reinforcements from the Moussoro garrison. There were many casualties and much material damage on the side of the puppet group.

Through this praiseworthy act, the brave ANL fighters have given proof that the Red Line is only a theory, that is only in the minds of the neocolianists who drew it. It must be noted that the incident took place less then 300 km from Ndjamena.

RWANDA

Briefs

Outgoing Algerian Envoy — The MRND [National Revolutionary Movement for Development] secretary general, Bonaventure Habimana, today received (?Lounes), the outgoing Algerian ambassador to Rwanda resident in Nairobi. [Summary] [Kigali Domestic Service in French 1600 GMT 14 Aug 84 EA]

GHANA

Over 1,000 Citizens in Nigeria Return Home

AB160835 Accra Domestic Service in English 0700 GMT 16 Aug 84

[Text] Over 1,000 Ghanaians resident in Nigeria arrived at the Tema harbor from Lagos yesterday on board a Black Star Line vessel *MV VOLTA RIVER*. A report says they came home voluntarily, and, according to some of them, they took the decision after realizing that conditions in Nigeria were getting worse.

Officially, the manifest recorded 895 passengers, but there were several others who sneaked on board without paying the fare of 62 naira. These were, however, asked to pay the equivalent of 2,500 cedis before they were allowed to leave the vessel. The chief mate of the vessel, Mr Abieku Darko, told newsmen that they were informed in Lagos that 400 Ghanaians were waiting to travel home, and they agreed to bring them. He said it was suddenly realized that there were over a thousand passengers on board the vessel. Mr Darko said the ship eventually took everybody who was at the port.

The arrivals include teachers, artisans, students, and professionals.

Under Secretary Returns From Visit to USSR

AB150940 Accra Domestic Service in English 0600 GMT 15 Aug 84

[Text] The under secretary for local government, Miss Gertrude Zacharia, has arrived back in Accra from Moscow after a week's visit at the invitation of the Soviet Women's Committee. She told newsmen that her visit was to strengthen the existing protocol between Ghana and the Soviet Union.

Miss Zacharia also visited a collective farm belonging to the Soviet Women's Committee. She also had talks with trade union and city council officials about the structure and administration of their outfits.

Community Radio Station To Be Established

AB152252 Accra Domestic Service in English 2145 GMT 15 Aug 84

[Text] UNESCO is to assist the Ghana Broadcasting Corporation [GBC] to establish its first community radio station at Dorma Ahenkro in Brong Ahafo. It is the single largest project in the country UNESCO would be involved in. This was announced by the director general of the GBC, (Kwesi) Hesse, when he paid a courtesy call on the Brong Ahafo regional secretary, C.S. Takyi, as part of his 2-day visit to the region. (Kwesi) Hesse said the GBC does not intend to open any more relay stations apart from the three to be opened at Goaso, Denu, and Apam. Rather, in its short term program, the corporation wants to consolidate existing relay stations. The director general said the corporation now had the equipment to rehabilitate some of the old relay stations. He announced that the Duayaw Nkwanta relay station must be extended to cater for Techimantia, Bechem, and Dorma.

GUINEA-BISSAU

President To Visit France, Yugoslavia

AB151936 Paris AFP in French 1041 GMT 15 Aug 84

[Text] Bissau, 15 Aug (AFP) — The head of state of Guinea-Bissau, General Joao Bernardo Vieira, will pay private visits to Yugoslavia and France — at unspecified dates — it was learned from official sources in Bissau. He will make stopovers in Guinea and Belgium.

According to the press attache at the Presidency of the State Council, President Vieira will meet French President Francois Mitterrand during his stay in Paris. He will also hold working sessions with the ministers of external relations and of cooperation, Messrs Claude Cheysson and Christian Nucci. Their talks will center on cooperation between France and Guinea-Bissau, the press attache said. He gave these details following the audience granted by Guinea-Bissau's head of state to the French ambassador in Bissau, Louis Bouroux.

In Yugoslavia, where he will spend his holiday at the invitation of the League of Communists and the government, President Vieira will hold talks with his hosts on bilateral cooperation and international issues.

LIBERIA

Decree Against 'Spread of Rumors' Released

AB152346 Paris AFP in English 1143 GMT 15 Aug 84

[Excerpts] Monrovia, Aug 15 (AFP) — Liberian Minister of State J. Bernard Blamo has dismissed rumours about a "fake coup", which he said were intended to create fear among the Liberian people, state television reported here last night.

Meanwhile, a decree to protect the public against "the spread of rumors, lies and disinformation" has been released here. Offenders can be arrested and detained without bail pending trial. According to the decree, anyone making allegations against any executive or judicial authority, members of the interim government or any individual with the intention of damaging their status or reputation is guilty of a first degree felony. Attempts to undermine the security of the state, cause civil strife or labour unrest, or interfere with the electoral process are also punishable under the decree, which was issued on July 21 by the then Military Council but only made public this week.

10th Political Party Formed Since Ban Lifted

AB151956 Monrovia Domestic Service in English 1900 GMT 15 Aug 84

[Text] Another group of Liberians have announced their intention to form a political party to be known as the Liberian Action Party, LAP. This brings to 10 the number of political parties that have come up since the ban on political activities was lifted on 26 July this year. The chairman of the organizing committee, Counselor Tuan Wreh, told the press at a local hotel in Monrovia today that the LAP is based on the principles to which all Liberians can subscribe. He said that membership to the party is open to all Liberian citizens, 18 years of age and above irrespective of sex, creed, or ethnic origin. Counselor Wreh gave 12 objectives by which the party will be governed. Among them: to guarantee democracy; to protect private property and freedom of speech, of the press, and of religion and all fundamental rights. Counselor Wreh, former legal adviser to the head of state, said the LAP will pursue a program of national reconstruction that will provide for social and economic development. The LAP says it will ensure the supremacy of the rule of law and demand accountability by government officials and other persons serving in positions of public trust.

Other members of the organizing committee include former Defense Minister Harry A. Gray Jr, as cochairman, and former Finance Minister Aluin Jones, Dr Ibrahima Kaba, and Dr P. Nadei Brookley as members.

NIP Nominates Sumo Jones as Presidential Candidate

AB151955 Monrovia Domestic Service in English 1900 GMT 15 Aug 84

[Text] Dr E. Sumo Jones has been elected standard bearer of the National Integration Party, NIP, to canvass for the presidency in the ensuing general elections. Dr Jones was elected recently at the NIP's meeting at a local hotel in Monrovia. The meeting was reportedly attended by a cross-section of Liberian citizens. He said that the motto of his party is: In union lies strength; while its symbol is the unification emblem.

NIP was formally organized following the issuance of the guidelines by the special election commission early last week.

NIGERIA

Buhari on Rationale of Action Against Ex-Politicians

AB151922 Lagos Domestic Service in English 1200 GMT 15 Aug 84

[Text] The head of state, Major General Muhammadu Buhari, has explained the rationale behind the present action against former political office holders in the country. Addressing the people of Degema yesterday in continuation of his tour of Rivers State, General Buhari explained that the measure became necessary to serve as deterrent to present and future office holders. The head of state reaffirmed the Federal Government's commitment to improving the lot of the people through improved agriculture, industrialization, and transportation. General Buhari also visited Brass, where he assured the people of his government's determination to continue to give a prompt attention to some federal projects in the state. These include federal roads, electrification, liquified natural gas and petrochemical industries. The head of state inspected the water supply scheme in the area and was later treated to a warm reception by a Brass galaxy of traditional dances. General Buhari today visited the military hospital and the 2d Air Mobile Brigade officers' mess where he addressed the officers and men of the unit. The head of state is expected back in Lagos later today.

DPRK Willing To Supply Equipment on Credit

AB150900 Lagos Domestic Service in English 0600 GMT 15 Aug 84

[Text] The DPRK says it is willing to supply equipment and machinery on credit for joint projects with Nigeria. The economic counsellor at the North Korean Embassy, Mr (Tso Ae-aenyong) said in Lagos that the offer was one of the proposals of the North Korean delegation, led by that country's vice president, Mr Pak Song-chol, who visited Nigeria recently. He noted that Nigeria's emphasis was on projects with local raw material content and that such priority was in agriculture, particularly in the (?sowing) and processing of rice, maize, and soya beans, as well as fishery and dairy farms. He said that a ministerial joint session has been scheduled for Lagos in November to monitor the progress of cooperation between the two countries.

ANGOLA

Attorney General Meets With Soviet Official

MB150928 Luanda Domestic Service in Portuguese 0500 GMT 15 Aug 84

[Text] Monteiro de Abreu, attorney general of the People's Republic of Angola, was received in Moscow yesterday by (Akiz Alimov), deputy chairman of the Presidium of the USSR Supreme Soviet, during his visit to the USSR.

During the meeting, the development of the Angola-USSR relations were discussed, which contributed to strenthening relations between jurists of the two countries.

We must recall that Monteiro de Abreu will later visit the People's Republic of Hungary and the GDR.

LESOTHO

Jonathan Discusses Elections, Letter to RSA

MB151950 Maseru Domestic Service in English 1600 GMT 15 Aug 84

[Text] The prime minister, the Right Honorable Dr Leabua Jonathan, today extended his special gratitudes to His Majesty Moshoeshoe II for having established the interim National Assembly in April 1973, the interim National Assembly for the great achievements it had made, the civil servants who have enabled the house to operate efficiently, and members of the Security Forces who helped in the maintenance of law and order throughout this period.

Dr Jonathan, who was speaking on the motion of thanks by the interim National Assembly, recalled that leaders of the main political parties met after the abortive 1970 general elections and decided to request and establish the interim National Assembly.

The prime minister said that since its establishment, the house had carried out noble tasks. It has passed about 200 bills which are of great importance to the nation. Among the important bills passed by the interim National Assembly, the prime minister referred to the Amnesty Act, 1980, which makes it possible for the people who left the country having committed crimes against the state to ask for pardon and return home. In this regard, he specifically mentioned that he will support an application for amnesty by Mr Ntsu Mokhehle of the Basotho Congress Party, the National University Act which enabled the university to fall under control of the Basotho, the Currency Act, 1978, by which the maluti currrency was established, and the Parliament Act, which paved the way for the holding of general elections in Lesotho.

The prime minister pointed out that these laws embrace all the important legislation required to run the country efficiently. The prime minister stressed that the Basotho National Party Government is based on the philosophy of Moshoeshoe the Great, who proved himself to be a polished democrat. He said that elections will be held to maintain the Basotho policy of democracy and of giving power to the people and said that no foreigners will supervise elections in Lesotho.

Dr Jonathan openly rejected allegations by some media that he intends introducing a one-party state system in Lesotho. He stressed that he will not support legislation for the creation of a one-party state because this would be immoral and anti-Basotho. He, however, pointed out that as much as he is for a multiparty system he would like to see political parties that are loyal to both the country and his majesty, and said the political parties should be formed in Lesotho and not in a foreign country.

Referring to the allegations that because of the establishment of relations with socialist states he had turned the Basotho into a communist nation, the prime minister said that it is unfortunate that the South African authorities have not yet understood the Basotho nation. He rejected this allegation as a myth and said that the Basotho are not susceptible to foreign ideologies and that if they were they would have long embraced apartheid.

The prime minister said the letter sent to the South African Foreign Ministry, which was also tabled before the National Assembly, has become an international document and has been sent to the Lesotho mission abroad and to international organizations like the United Nations in New York, the Commonwealth in London, the OAU in Addis Ababa, and the nonaligned countries. He said that this is done with the intention of exposing the difficulties South Africa is imposing on Lesotho.

The prime minister expressed surprise at South Africa, which always flinches when the international community calls for sanctions against it, is (?technically) applying selective sanctions against Lesotho. At the moment the Lesotho interim security equipment and a helicopter are languishing in the ports of Maputo and Durban and in Johannesburg because the South African Government will not allow them passage through its territory. Dr Jonathan pointed out that all these maneuvers by South Africa are aimed at coercing Lesotho to sign the so-called nonaggression pact.

He concluded by calling on political parties in the country to help in maintaining peace and stability during the coming general elections.

MOZAMBIQUE

Veloso, Chissano Discuss Nkomati Accords

PM141501 Rome LA REPUBBLICA in Italian 12-13 Aug 84 p 10

[Pietro Petrucci report on interviews with "Economy Minister" Jacinto Veloso, Foreign Minister Joaquim Chissano: "The Revolution that Looks Toward Italy"]

[Excerpts] Maputo — A sudden Mozambique fever is spreading through Italy's most important personages. [Foreign Minister] Giulio Andreotti, who has already been here, is due to return officially in the fall. [Industrial Reconstruction Institute President] Romano Prodi was here in July. [Fiat Chief] Gianni Agnelli has been invited here (straight after David Rockefeller, who has already been) and should not be long in coming. There are already

many hundreds of less well known Italians who pay regular visits to Maputo — diplomats and "volunteer workers," churchmen and businessmen, architects, and university teachers.

Let the public be prepared. Having familiarized us with Lebanon and the Sahel, Sinai, and Ogaden, Italian diplomacy — which has a soft spot for Africa — is leading us down the road to the Southern Hemisphere, 8,000 km south of Lampedusa [southern tip of Italy]. Having become in a few years one of the major partners, together with Ethiopia and Somolia, of Italian cooperation with the Third World, Mozambique is now one of the forward positions of our foreign policy.

"Italy, together with the Scandinavian countries," Economy Minister [post as published] Jacinto Veloso said, "is one of the countries that has contributed most to the strengthening of our independence in these difficult years."

"What lies behind the Nkomati accords," Veloso argues, "is first and foremost an error on our part: For too long we neglected to examine the real situation in South Africa. And yet we made a good start. Many years ago the Mozambique Liberation Front [Frelimo] scandalized the whole of Africa by daring to maintain that the 'South Africa question' was not a colonial issue, that is, a matter of releasing a territory from outside, extra-African, domination. South Africa, we dared to say, is a sovereign, independent state that is, however, the prisoner of a dictatorship — that exerted by a minority (the 'White tribe') against the majority of the population. At the time the distinction seemed obtuse and provocative, but it was not so, as we realize now that there is so much discussion of how to eliminate racism from South Africa."

[Petrucci] Having thus opened and then immediately reclosed the South Africa file, Frelimo had to deal with other matters.

[Veloso] In about 1980 we realized almost suddenly that South Africa had succeeded in placing our very independence in jeopardy. It was a military threat, stemming from the preemptive attacks and punitive expeditions to which Pretoria subjected Mozambique together with all the independent states of the region. But it was also a diplomatic threat. Because in the West, though not much liked, the South African Government enjoys much more credibility than any African country.

How many times we have come up against the platitudes spread by Pretoria: Frelimo — Moscow's puppet; African nationalism — the Trojan Horse of Red imperialism; our socialism dismissed as a communist virus. This is the situation in which we found ourselves — militarily attacked, diplomatically discredited, and caught in a vise between terrorism and drought.

We resisted. The renagade gangs did not enter Maputo, and we succeeded in asserting our arguments in the West, including the United States. But we realized that this was not enough. To emerge from the quagmire it was necessary to alter the attitude of our most difficult interlocutor — the one that was preventing us from devoting ourselves to our real problems: South Africa. And we set ourselves an objective: To build a diplomatic framework within which to achieve coexistence with Pretoria, within observance of our mutual sovereignty. It was a matter of persuading South Africa to recognize and observe the state founded by Frelimo. It was no easy task. Ask our foreign minister and you will see whether I am right.

The head of Mozambique diplomacy is called Joaquim Chissano and, like Veloso and a dozen others in their forties, is one of the fathers of the homeland. He comes from a very large peasant family, fought in the war instead of attending university, and has diplomacy in his veins. He became foreign minister 9 years ago, on independence day itself, having for 12 very delicate months headed the transitional government established in what was then Lourenco Marques by the Portuguese Captains.

I asked him whether he felt embarrassed about explaining the Nkomati accords. The cool Chissano smiled self-confidently: "In recent months Frelimo's prestige has been rising, not falling. Nobody is entitled any more to harbor doubts about Mozambique's ability to determine its own future and its own foreign policy."

[Chissano] We do not have diplomatic relations with South Africa, but simply de facto relations. We do not have and will not have an embassy in Pretoria because we reject the apartheid system. However we regard South Africa as a sovereign state, with which we discuss practical questions which we cannot ignore: security, economic problems, commercial problems.

[Petrucci] Do you mean that you regard apartheid as an internal South African question?

[Chissano] No. Racial discrimination is a problem which concerns the whole of mankind, and which we detest as does the whole of mankind. This does not mean that we, as Mozambicans, feel entitled to intervene directly to overthrow racism. If slavery existed in Italy, we would feel entitled to condemn your country but not to intervene personally "inside" your country. Combating apartheid is mankind's collective responsibility to which everybody should contribute according to his means.

[Petrucci] Some people say that South Africa now feels stronger.

[Chissano] Nonsense. Our peace agreement, which we are certain will contribute to building peace in the whole region, will show that violence has not been imported into Southern Africa by distant powers, still less by independent African countries. The roots of the violence are within South Africa, and are called apartheid. The Republic of South Africa's security is threatened by only one thing: racial discrimination.

[Petrucci] You are accused of having tied the ANC's hands and of having delayed the liberation process in South Africa...

[Chissano] Let us be frank. We do not regard the destruction of apartheid by violent means as a feasible prospect in the short term. We may be mistaken, but, on the other hand, experience shows us that the decisive factor in liberation, which decides the time and method of struggle, is the people who have to liberate themselves. This struggle in South Africa was started and is directed by the ANC. Sooner or later the Boers will have to negotiate the creation of an egalitarian society with the ANC.

[Petrucci] You are denying the South African nationalists what you gave Zimbabwe's nationalists a few years ago.

[Chissano] That is true, but it is nothing new. At the end of 1977, when we decided to play a direct part in the war to finally oust colonialism in Rhodesia, we warned our South African comrades that we could not do the same for them because of the different nature of the enemy (a sovereign state and not a colonial state) and because of the lack of specific military prospects. We are now saying in public what we have said to the ANC leadership in private for years, adopting a position which is also that of other countries and which Zimbabwe adopted the very day it gained independence.

[Petrucci] The Reagan administration is hinting that it played the role of guarantor in this negotiation of yours.

[Chissano] Let us not exaggerate. Let us say that, after initially encouraging South African arrogance, Reagan's men realized that Mozambique was a serious interlocutor; they succeeded in conveying this conviction to the South African leaders, helping to facilitate a dialogue which was inevitable in any case.

[Petrucci] What about the other Western countries?

[Chissano] They could have done more. For years we asked the biggest Western countries to exert as much pressure as they could on South Africa to overcome its intransigence. We achieved little. We now need more than ever to step up economic and commercial cooperation with the West, to make up for lost time and consolidate the foundations of this peace.

[Petrucci] Moscow and the other socialist countries do not seem enthusiastic about your agreement with Pretoria.

[Chissano] Only somebody who does not know the situation in this part of the world, and there are many who do not, can regret what is happening.

Samora Machel Address to ZANU-PF Congress

MB151617 Maputo NOTICIAS in Portuguese
9 Aug 84 p 3

[Speech by President Samora Machel to the ZANU-PF Congress in Harare on 8 August]

[Excerpt] Comrade delegates, as Comrade Robert Mugabe stated this morning, a new struggle front is emerging after the consolidation of the political power: the struggle for economic independence. Our peoples still do not have enough footwear and clothes. We have not yet provided sufficient housing for our peoples. We do not have electricity and piped water in our homes. Our children are not yet sufficiently nourished. Our youths, our women, and our workers still do not have enough food. We still do not have schools and hospitals at everybody's reach.

Economic independence is an inseparable part of the national liberation process which we began when we took up arms. We are struggling for economic independence in an international situation in which the balance of power is extremely unfavorable for the developing nations. Our countries occupy a place which has been previously established for them by the international strategy of capitalist exploitation and by the general militaristic policy of imperialism. The struggle for economic independence poses a decisive threat to disrupt this balance of forces. Thus, the enemy is reacting with brutal violence, great vigor, and sophisticated subtlety. The sugar bullets he is firing at us are inflicting more harrowing wounds on many of our compatriots than the steel bullets the colonial army could inflict.

The struggle for economic independence demands more determination, unity, and political awareness. Our experience teaches us that the enemy in the economic struggle could even be our own brother, cousin, and workmate. It could even be a party member. The enemy of the economic struggle can appear in the form of our own compatriots who may try to impress us with their revolutionary, radical, and populist demagoguery. Other compatriots are doing this daily in the name of legalism and absolute conformity to managerial technocracy [technicismos] in order to oppose the progress of the revolution.

When economic independence is based on a solid experience of resistance and armed struggle, the enemy's action takes the form of direct aggression or aggression through its group of armed agents, the armed bandits. Wherever they operate, the armed bandits are part of the enemy strategy. They are only an instrument being used against Zimbabwe, Mozambique, and Angola, countries which had waged an armed struggle, as well as Lesotho, which is an example of a country with a rich heritage of struggle and resistance.

Dear comrades, in order to be victorious, the struggle against underdevelopment and for economic independence requires us to take the process of decolonization to all aspects of our life. In Mozambique we thus took the struggle to all fronts: political, social, economic, cultural, and ideological. This entailed the transformation of the nature of the state and the state apparatus which was bequeathed by colonialism, and the creation of a national system of education and a new medical and health assistance structure. We changed the judicial and penal system. We carried out continued activity in search of new democratic forms of leadership and methods of correcting the labor system. We encouraged the collective and cooperative movement. From the grassroots we created a new trade union organization that promotes the political, cultural, technical, and scientific capacity of our workers. This trade union organization stimulates selfless socialist production work and causes the tranformation of the social relations of production. These are only some of the difficult and long battles that we have waged. They are, however, eradicating the most profound vestiges of colonialism and exploitation.

The fourth congress of the Frelimo party reviewed the experiences gained in the development process and approved measures for strengthening this line of action by giving priority to the defense of the fatherland, the struggle against underdevelopment, and the building of a socialist society. A fundamental aspect of the struggle for the total decolonization of society after the seizure of political power is mental decolonization [descolonisacao mental]. We still intimately cherish the concepts of the former colonial master. His culture is still a point of reference

to many people who seek to imitate it and who still admire it. This attitude reflects an inferiority complex.

Our process teaches us that it is vital for each of us to find his own identity and form his own personality with roots in his own land and the people to whom he belongs. The identity and personality must be inspired by the specific nature of the nation to which he belongs. Thus, it is important for us to value our secular culture in conformity with the demands of the new society that we are building. This is a delicate and complex task. It is only in this way that we can create a new man.

This struggle gives a new perception of our country, which enables us to understand the full scope of the nation so as to discover the inestimable values of national unity, equality, and love among all men.

Comrade delegates, the 20 years of armed struggle that we are going to celebrate on 25 September are evidence of the rich traditions of resistance, courage, and love for liberty which characterize our people.

After 10 years of armed struggle for national liberation, the Mozambican people prepared themselves for the arduous task of national reconstruction. They became engaged in the task of overcoming illiteracy and economic backwardness. But, the Mozambican people found themselves being attacked by the Smith minority regime. Thus, to studies and labor there was added another task, that of defending our freed fatherland. The Mozambican people's solidarity with your struggle is the fruit of a historical identity which has its origins in the empires of Gaza and Monomotapa. Your just struggle, its strength, the heroism of your guerrilla fighters, and the certainty of victory which animated the Zimbabwean patriots were the main driving force for the Mozambican people's enthusiasm for your struggle. From month to month, from week to week, and almost from day to day, we saw the victories you achieved in your struggle hastening the overthrow of the colonial regime.

The hope for peace that the victory of the Zimbabwean people brought about was changed into a painful reality — the reality of South African aggression. However, the Pretoria policy of destabilization through mercenaries and armed bandits further strengthened the determination of our people to consolidate their gains and pursue the building of socialism. Our military victories and the success of our diplomatic offensive which led to the international isolation of the apartheid regime by changing the balance of power in Southern Africa thwarted this imperialist military destabilization option.

The Nkomati Accord is an expression of the new situation created in the region, but it does not mark the end of imperialist plans for domination. The newly created situation demands the strengthening of unity and cohesion in our ranks and the consolidation of common thought within the Frontline States and the Southern African Development Coordination Conference. The continued persistance of imperialism and racism in attempting to destroy our revolution demonstrates the justness of the path we have chosen — the building of socialism. In our fatherland, the revolution shall win and socialism shall triumph. The two decades of armed struggle against oppression and aggression have strenthened our national unity. The understanding of the true antipatriotic and criminal nature of the enemy who carries out acts of aggression against us has consolidated our love for the fatherland and the awareness of our national identity.

As a result of our confrontation with the enemy, we are able to understand our country and our people much better. We are thus able to rectify mistakes and deepen the people's underestanding of our revolution.

Comrade delegates the hard-working and fighting people of Zimbabwe have produced distinguished sons which all of Africa and progressive humanity feels proud of. Chief Tangwena, Leopold Takawira, Georges Silundika, Hebert Chitepo, Jason Moyo, and Josiah Tongogara are names which not only belong to the history of Zimbabwe but are also recorded in gold in the book of liberation of Africa. Nevertheless, among the distinguished sons of the Zimbabwean people, allow me to point out the figure of the indisputable leader who is loved and respected by the entire Zimbabwean nation — Comrade President Robert Gabriel Mugabe. Hero of the armed struggle for the national liberation, Comrade Robert Gabriel Mugabe continues to be the model of a firm and enlightened revolutionary leader who is devoted to the cause of the Zimbabwean fatherland and people. He personifies the most noble ideals of liberty, justice, progress, national unity, and equality among all Zimbabweans. He is the symbol of the past period of struggle, the present period of work and sacrifice, and the future period of hope and socialism. Comrade Robert Mugabe, we reaffirm to you here during this Second ZANU-PF Congress, the great esteem, respect and admiration in which you are held by Mozambican people and the Frelimo Party.

Comrade delegates, we are here to tell you our certainty that ZANU-PF, the inheritor of patriotic traditons of the great heroes of this nation, will under the leadership of Comrade President Robert Mugabe guide all the Zimbabwean people toward the building of a unified, sovereign, prosperous, and democratic country — a Zimbabwe with equality of justice which is proud of its history of struggle and proud of its identity.

On behalf of the Frelimo Party, I wish you the best of success in the proceedings of this Second ZANU-PF Congress. The revolution shall win. Socialism shall triumph. The struggle continues. Thank you very much.

Pakistan Signs Protocol on Economic Ties

MB151515 Maputo Domestic Service in Portuguese 1400 GMT 15 Aug 84

[Text] Mozambique and the Islamic Republic of Pakistan signed a protocol today in Maputo on the general conditions under which Pakistan may render services to Mozambique. The protocol was signed by Antonio Sumbane, state secretary for international cooperation and Khadim Hussain Raja, the Pakistani ambassador to Maputo.

Speaking at the ceremony, Kadim Raja described the protocol as an important document for the strengthening of the existing relations between the two countries in the economic, scientific,

and technical fields. The Pakistani ambassador said that his country might cooperate with Mozambique in the sectors of agriculture and light industry.

NAMIBIA

Roberto Discusses SWAPO, FAPLA Clashes With FNLA

MB151413 Windhoek THE WINDHOEK ADVERTISER in English 10 Aug 84 p 3

[Text] Windhoek — Armed forces of the FNLA [Angolan National Liberation Front], resistance movement in Angola, were becoming increasingly involved in clashes with SWAPO insurgents in the north of that country, the FNLA leader, Mr Holden Roberto, was quoted as saying by the SWABC.

According to a radio news report in Windhoek yesterday, Mr Roberto said the introduction of the Joint Monitoring Commission between South Africa and Angola had resulted in SWAPO insurgents having to be trained farther north from Angola's border with Namibia.

Speaking at his home in Washington, Mr Roberto said Angola's FAPLA forces were employing SWAPO in fights against the FNLA.

The SWABC reported him as saying that many SWAPO leaders were being manipulated by the Soviet Union to promote "communist imperialism".

Mr Roberto said any effort toward peaceful independence in Namibia would fail because of Cuba's armed presence in Angola.

The FNLA wanted the Cubans out of Angola and free democratic elections under international supervision after the situation in the country had stabilised.

Mr Roberto said the FNLA had repeatedly asked the U.S. to bring about a Cuban withdrawal from Angola.

The FNLA presently consisted of 7,000 armed men and a further 30,000 men could be made "combat ready" if the movement had the necessary armaments.

He emphasised that he was not interested in a merger with Angola's UNITA rebel movement.

SOUTH AFRICA

Pik Botha Criticizes UN Debate on Constitution

MB160718 Johannesburg International Service in English 0630 GMT 16 Aug 84

[Text] South Africa will be represented in New York today at an urgent session of the UN Security Council to discuss the new constitutional dispensation to be introduced this year. The session is being held at the request of Algeria, chairman of the Africa Group in the United Nations this month. Our correspondent in New York reports that the ANC put pressure on Algeria to request the session. The ANC has observer status in the United Nations.

South Africa is expected to take part in the debate soon after it begins. Her case will be put by South African permanent representative at the United Nations, Mr Kurt von Schirnding. Our correspondent reports that the session is a violation of the UN Charter, which prohibits interference in the domestic affairs of a member country.

The South African foreign minister, Mr Pik Botha, says he has instructed Mr von Schirnding to tell the Security Council that any discussion of the new constitution would be a flagrant violation of the UN Charter. He says most member countries of the United Nations would not allow their domestic affairs to be discussed because most countries that belong to the United Nations allowed little or no democratic systems in their countries, not to mention religious freedom and independent legal systems, among others.

Mr Botha says the debate on the South African constitution is not only irregular but also uncalled for. Mr Botha says he hopes that the Security Council will be able to say why a half million black people from other African countries were streaming into South Africa for work. Most of them crossed into South Africa illegally, ignoring the fact that they might be arrested.

He said black people in South Africa enjoyed more freedom, including the freedom of speech, a higher standard of living, medical services, education and training, than in the rest of Africa. Mr Botha said it was the duty of the Security Council rather to discuss the hunger and socioeconomic decline in many member countries if the organization was really concerned about the well-being of people.

More Security Talks With Mozambique Confirmed

MB160736 Johannesburg International Service in English 0630 GMT 16 Aug 84

[Text] The South African Department of Foreign Affairs has confirmed that another round of talks is to be held in Pretoria today with a delegation from Mozambique. It is believed that the discussions will be similar to those held on Monday in that they will cover the security situation in Mozambique.

Need for Security in Mozambique Underlined

MB150939 Johannesburg Domestic Service in English 0500 GMT 15 Aug 84

[Station commentary]

[Text] By far the most pressing obligation of governments throughout Southern Africa is to establish the national stability and security upon which economic development depends. To a greater or lesser degree, every country in the region has experienced the detrimental economic effect of inadequacies in that foundation, either in internal affairs or in relations with its neighbors.

It was natural, therefore that security considerations were the main motive force behind the rapprochement between South Africa and Mozambique that took place earlier this year and culminated in the historic Nkomati Accord.

Five months later, security remains the chief concern of the two governments in giving effect to the terms of the accord. It featured in ministerial talks held this week in Maputo on transport and in Pretoria to review events since Nkomati. The continuing activity in Mozambique not only of dissidents but of growing numbers of bandits formed the backdrop to the Pretoria meeting. Afterwards, Foreign Minsiter Pik Botha said more meetings were planned to sort out the problem once and for all.

In Maputo the minister of transport, Mr Hendrik Schoeman, noted that goods that were being channeled to Maputo harbor after the Nkomati Accord were being delayed for a week at Komatipoort because trains could only run in the day.

Resolving the security issue is as important to South Africa as it is to Mozambique. Politically, this country has already made substantial gains as a result of the Nkomati Accord. The ANC terrorism threat has been dramatically reduced since the withdrawal of base facilities for training and logistics, and the restriction of activities of the organization's members. That development has taken place not only in Mozambique, where the ANC had its Southern African operational headquarters, but also in other neighboring countries that followed Maputo's lead.

On a wider front, governments farther afield in Africa and in Europe have taken note of the Mozambican precedent and become more open in their dealings with South Africa, and their acknowledgment of power relations in Southern Africa. The potential economic benefits are no less far-reaching. Competitively priced electricity from Cahora Bassa, tourism and business opportunities, and the value of the Maputo import-export route are the obvious examples.

Maputo, as Mr Schoeman pointed out, is the national harbor for the Transvaal. For the Pretoria-Witwatersrand-Vereeniging industrial complex and the eastern Transvaal agricultural region, it is much the shortest and cheapest route. Less tangible, but even more important, are the effects on South Africa's international business standing and hence its attractiveness for much-needed foreign investment of a regional dispensation that is seen to be promoting political stability.

Such are the benefits already gained from, and the prospects opened up by, the Nkomati Accord. But realizing the potential created by the accord hinges on a satisfactory settlement of the security problems. The growth of private business and investment, and even the proper functioning of a state railway or power line, depend on the maintenance of order and stability.

It is as important for South Africa as it is for Mozambique, therefore, that the promise of enhanced security for both countries — which is the basis of the Nkomati Accord — should be achieved.

ANC Hails Election of Toivo to Top SWAPO Post

MB151157 Lusaka Domestic Service in English 1115 GMT 15 Aug 84

[Text] The ANC has lauded the election of SWAPO cofounder Herman Toivo ja Toivo as the organization's secretary general. In a message of congratulation to Mr Toivo ja Toivo, ANC Secretary General Alfred Nzo says the election of Mr Toivo ja Toivo was fitting and would greatly reinforce the SWAPO leadership at the most crucial stage of the Namibian liberation war.

The message, which was released in Lusaka today, also lauded Mr Toivo's experience and unswerving dedication to the noble cause of the Namibian people. Mr Nzo declared that the cause of the Namibian people was bound to triumph despite maneuvers by apartheid South Africa.

ZIMBABWE

Mugabe Notes 'Lull' in Infiltrating 'Bandits'

MB160632 Harare Domestic Service in English 0500 GMT 16 Aug 84

[Text] The prime minister, Comrade Robert Mugabe, has told the House of Assembly that there has been a lull for some time in the infiltration of Super-ZANU bandits from racist South Africa.

The prime minister gave this information during a question and answer session in the House of Assembly yesterday. He was answering a question from the ZANU-PF member of parliament for Victoria, Comrade (George Mudukuti), who asked him to comment on reports in British newspapers which indicated that Pretoria had cut aid to ZIPRA.

Comrade Mugabe said a false [as heard] sense of security could indicate that the minority Pretoria regime had not been successful in secretly sending more ZAPU elements into Zimbabwe. He also said it might indicate that the racist regime had decided to stop this destabilization policy.

The prime minister emphasized that one wondered whether there was any truth in the report. Commenting on another report which alleged that Harare and Pretoria were holding talks, Comrade Mugabe denied that there were discussions between the two capitals. He said Zimbabwe will not accept a forum at which a minister of the Zimbabwe Government goes to confer with a minister from Botha's regime at political level.

However, he disclosed that the government had given permission to Army and police commanders to meet their counterparts at the border on security-related matters. They could even travel to Johannesburg if issues to be discussed were important.

Comrade Mugabe also announced that general elections will be held in March or April next year. He explained that the registration of voters should be completed by October and, thereafter, the delimitation exercise will take place ending in December.

Mugabe:'Nkomati-Type' Agreement With RSA Not Needed
MB151919 Johannesburg SAPA in English
1820 GMT 15 Aug 84

[Text] Harare, Aug 15, SAPA — Zimbabwe did not need an "Nkomati-type" agreement with South Africa, the prime minister, Mr Robert Mugabe, said today.

He told the House of Assembly an agreement such as that signed in March between Mozambique and South Africa was not called for in Zimbabwe.

He was answering Conservative Alliance leader and former Rhodesian Front prime minister, Mr Ian Smith, who said an Nkomati-type agreement would bring benefits to the people of Zimbabwe and the prime minister should take the initiative to bring it about.

Mr Mugabe said South Africa had not asked for such an agreement, adding: "We do not feel there is a need for it. Our view is that it is not called for at all."

Mr Mugabe said he was suprised Mr Smith should be advocating such an agreement. "Who is he to ask for it?"

Mr Smith was a friend of people in the "apartheid regime" and knew them better than anyone else in Zimbabwe. "Why should he not prevail upon them, using his friendship, to stop them from destabilising us?"

Mr Mugabe said his government entertained no activity promoting violence against South Africa, but the republic was carrying out a policy of destabilising Zimbabwe.

General Election Planned for Early 1985
MB151846 Harare Domestic Service in English
1600 GMT 15 Aug 84

[Text] The next general elections will be held either in March or April next year. During the prime minister's question and answer session in the House of Assembly today, Comrade Mugabe said the government was keen to hold the second general elections and will not consider any postponement. He said in the Lancaster House Constitution there is a provision allowing for postponement of elections for another year. Comrade Mugabe said the registration of voters should be completed by October, and thereafter there will be the delimitation exercise which should end in December. The prime minister added that the government will announce the date for the elections in ample time and will not do it the British way ambushing the opposition. He was responding to a question from an independent member from Marlborough, Mr Bill Evans.

Briefs

New Japanese Ambassador Appointed — The Japanese Government today appointed a new ambassador to Zimbabwe. He is Mr (Yoshithomi Ito). [Summary][Harare Domestic Service in English 1115 GMT 14 Aug 84 MB].

UK Parliamentary Delegation — A five-man British parliamentary delegation of the Commonwealth Parliamentary Association is in Zimbabwe for talks with a number of Cabinet ministers and government officials. The group, which arrived in the country on Sunday and is led by Mr (Guy Barrock), is expected to visit development projects, particularly those concerned with tourism. The visit follows a recent one by eight Zimbabwean MP'S to the United Kingdom. [Text] [Harare Domestic Service in English 1600 GMT 14 Aug 84 MB]